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HIGH TIMES

SEPTEMBER 1986

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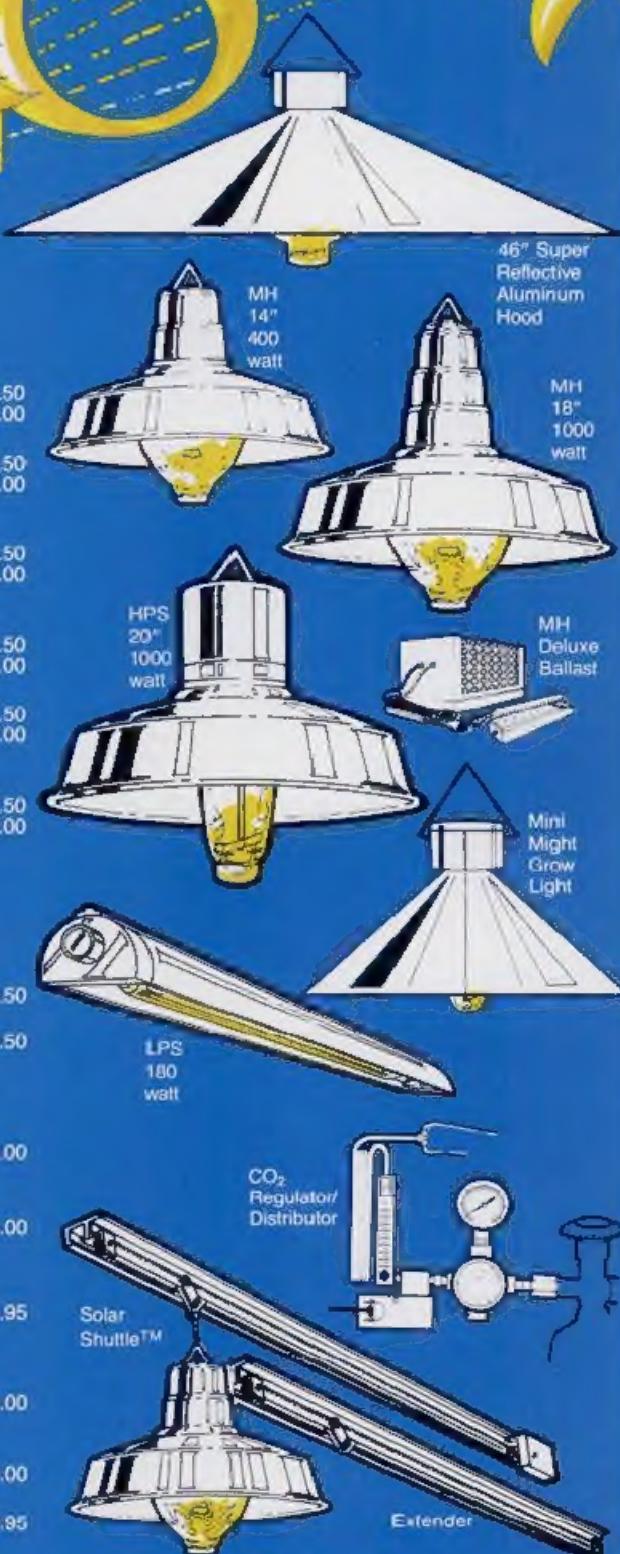
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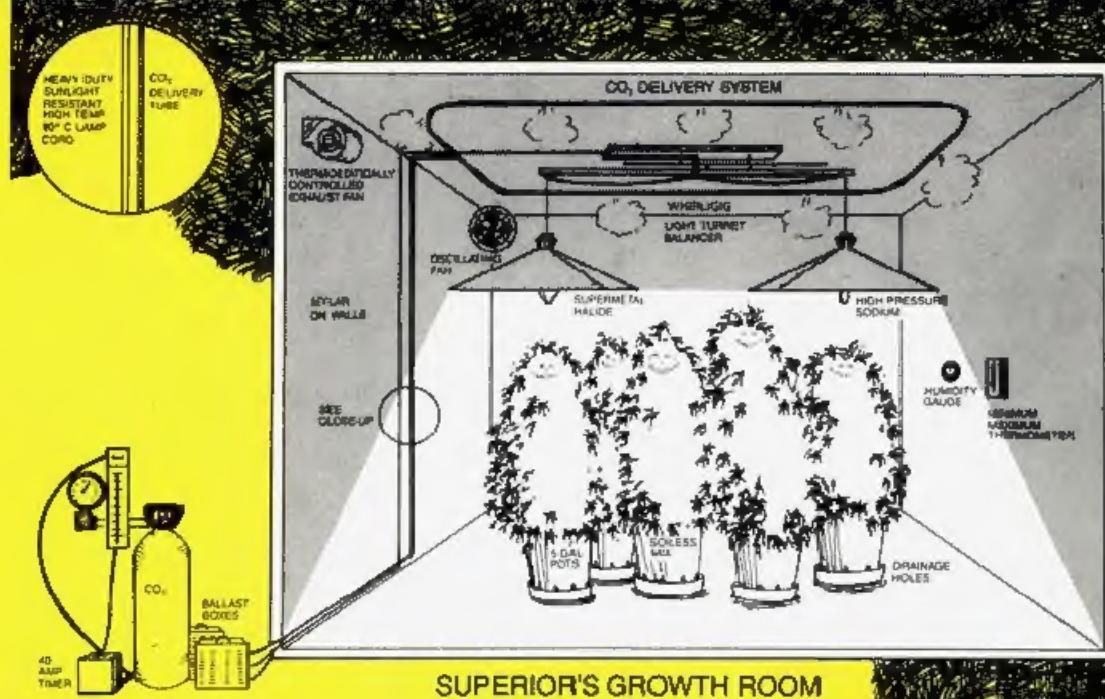
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CONTENTS

FEATURES • COLUMNS • DEPARTMENTS

THE MAKING OF AN AERIAL SMUGGLER

by Bradford X 31

In this latest installment of Smuggler's Journal, learn the secret truth behind Bradford X's hair-raising career as a dope smuggler.

MY LAST ACID TRIP

by Eric Bogosian 38

Long thought to be lost, this journal excerpt reveals the shocking truth about the Love Generation.

I WAS A TEENAGE ACID EXPLOITATION FLICK FIEND

by Roger Berrian 40

Take a trip back in time with this survey of '60s low-budget LSD movies.

INDOOR GROWING: A SPECIAL SECTION

by Kayo & Jorge Cervantes 45

Learn all about growing your own with our in-depth look at indoor marijuana cultivation. See new systems! Visit giant grow rooms!

EVIL RULERS TO POISON U.S.!

by Dean Latimer 64

How the DEA is trying to scare you off your stash with threats to spray deadly herbicides like paraquat, 2, 4-D and glysophate everywhere, on everything green!

TOP 40

by John Holstrom 98

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY BY
TOM McCavern

EDITOR'S NOTE

by John Howell 6

TRANS-HIGH MARKET QUOTATIONS

by Our Readers 21

ABUSE FOLIO

by David Smith & Rick Seymour 27

ASK ED

by Ed Rosenthal 56

HOMER'S GARDEN

by Homer Grown & Ed Rosenthal 60

THE GREAT INDOORS

by Jorge Cervantes 70

HIGH FIVES

by John Leland 84

RUSHES

by Jim Poling 88

SIGHTS

by Mark Moskin 90

LETTERS 7

FLASHES 10

HIGHWITNESS NEWS

edited by Dean Latimer 14

Piss Test Panic Drives Thousands into the Streets: "We're not going to take it anymore." Speedy Alka Seltzer scores positive on urine tests; Painkillers like Advil also register affirmative on THC quizzes; Rolling Stone threatens its staff with drug tests.

ACTIVISTS' NEWS 24

REFORM REPORT 26

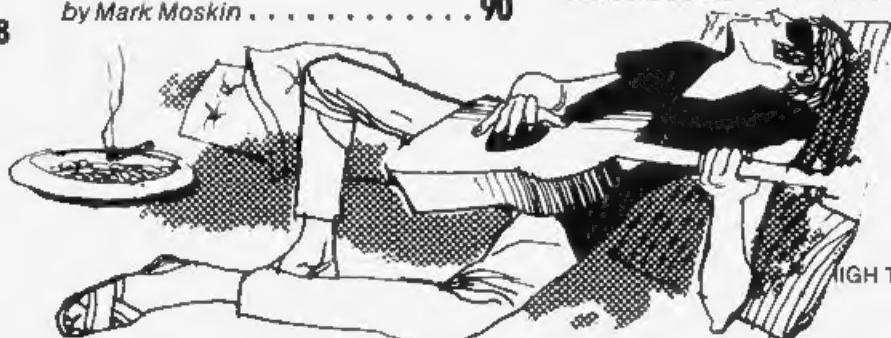
PRODUCTS 62

CLASSIFIED 78

CASE IN POINT 80

LEGAL DIRECTORY 81

BOOKSTORE 95



HIGH TIMES



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EDITOR'S NOTE

• We're mad as hell and we're not going to take it any more! It seems that Nancy Reagan's pet photo opportunity program, the National Partnership to Prevent Drug and Alcohol Abuse, has had their \$1 million dollar grant suspended by the Justice Department. Why? Because nearly \$700,000 has been spent—and nobody knows what for! While pigging out at the government money trough is not news, and while the amount of money involved is pathetically small compared with the billion dollar sums ripped off by Defense Department contractors, this sorry imbroglio indicates just how screwed up the current regime's priorities are in matters related to dope. (Can you imagine how bad this "anti-drug" outfit must have been for the Justice Department to cancel a program sponsored by the President's wife? They're probably not even telling us anything near the whole sordid story!) • It's a fact that the Reagan gang has cut the budget for drug education by 40% over last year, and the paltry \$18 million dollars allocated goes for inflated salaries, fat cat consultant fees, and first-class amenities so that bureaucratic "experts" can announce that there's a "drug problem" in the country. What these political drones don't take out of the budget goes to produce propaganda pamphlets which are biased, ill-informed, and which don't even look good! • This is another governmental mess that begs for a cleanup by enraged taxpayers. So we've got a solution: give us overworked, hardly overpaid experts at HIGH TIMES this budget (we'll even accept the measly figure of \$18 million for starters), and we'll deliver a bigger version every month of our already high-quality, informative and good-looking publication to a readership which, judging by our rising sales, wants to know the whole truth about dope, from medical to political facts, and which trusts HIGH TIMES to deliver the goods. Sure, maybe we'd take an extra junket or two and spruce up our spare offices a little, but the taxpayer would get good value for the bucks. We're watching the mails for our check . . .

From on high,

Editor-in-chief

LETTERS



CRAIG SHANNON

SHROOM DROUGHT?

Every year I go shroom hunting in East Texas about 30 miles from the Louisiana border. Back in '76, I used to pick up to ten pounds of shrooms. Lately, however, I have not even found one small Cubensis. Some of the area heads claim the government has been putting something in the cattle feed. Is this true? Or do shrooms only come out in certain years? I've put 5,000 miles on a new car just looking for shrooms. Also, can you run more articles on shrooms?

—El Monte Slim
San Angelo, Texas

Ed—You asked just in time. Next month HIGH TIMES presents a special section titled "Stalking the Wild Mushroom." We've heard rumors of a psilocybe drought in the Southwest, but don't have any facts on the cause. Stay tuned, maybe some of our readers can help us...

WEED DROUGHT?

I've been living in Texas for several years, and up until the last six months I've been able to find herb without much problem. But recently, the whole place seems to have dried up. Why don't the growers and importers stop in some of the small towns

of Texas and let us know there is good buddy in this state?

—C.T. Todd
Bryan, Texas

Ed—My, you fellers down thar in the Lone Star State sho'nuff have yer troubles rustlin' up DOPE, don't y'all? If y'all would just highjack one of them weekly six-wheel semis rolling out of El Paso to points north, y'all would be able to drop a few dozen tons of decent Mexican merch on the local market. Better yet, herb is always to be found when it's grown indoors.

OUR BOSS, CHEAP

HIGH TIMES magazine is owned and operated by the D.E.A.

—R. Wiland
San Diego, California

Ed—You're absolutely right. And if those cheap sons of bitches don't get the office air conditioner fixed by the end of the summer, we're going to start writing NICE things about them. Sure, John Lawn's got his problems with Gramm-Rudman and piss tests and all, but there have to be some human priorities, dammit!

PERMANENTLY PISSED

I followed your instructions on foiling the piss test and placed six grams of salt in my urine. The results were positive. On the second test I placed 12 grams of salt in the urine and the results were positive again. What happened? Does the government have equipment that is more sensitive than the standard machines mentioned in HIGH TIMES?

—Fired in Missouri

Ed—Even salt won't guarantee a urinalysis blank if the machine's malfunctioning—or if the lab tech running it has been instructed (or bribed) to make sure a specified specimen comes up positive. Happens all the time. Some government agencies—the armed services, for example—don't use the standard EMIT enzyme-immunoassay line of urine tests anymore, which is a sucker for salt, but have switched over to the newer Roche Abuscreen radio-immunoassay. Since the Roche gimmicks don't use salt-vulnerable enzymes, you'd probably have to really saturate the piss cup with salt to guarantee a blank. Our sample-beating directions (see p. 29) are directed toward private-sector employees.

PANAMANIAC

I am going to Panama soon, and I heard amphetamines are legal there and can be purchased over the counter. Is this true? I read your mag every month and think it's great.

—Ray
Champaign, Illinois

Ed—Sure, you can buy speed over the counter in Panama, and god knows what other kinds of disgusting dope. You can probably score heroin and cocaine in drugstores anywhere in Central America, if you're willing to tip the clerk with a few Yankee dollars. But see, once you've bought this dope from this Panamanian clerk you've never met before, there's nothing to keep pill-pushing Pedro from making a few more dollars by giving your name to the neighborhood DEA spook. BE YE WARNED.



CRAIG SHANNON

VICTIM OF FASCIST OPPRESSION

Big Brother is alive and well in the state of Washington. I ran into an associate of mine and he offered to take a bowl with me. I said, "sure, sounds good." He loaded the bowl and we both took a hit. Two undercover officers arrived and needlessly harassed us. Besides taking our bowl, they searched us. (We both had a gram in possession.) We were taken to a holding cell and set free with \$125 tickets. Lesson to be learned: In the eyes of the law, a toke off a pipe is grounds for misdemeanor possession! This summer I'm moving to Oregon. Hopefully, I'll arrive in time to register to vote, so I can vote YES for the Oregon Marijuana Initiative. Can you tell me when is the last day I can register?

—Scooter
Seattle, Washington

Ed—Ah, you beautiful yonkers of today... Y'know, many years ago HIGH TIMES got letters that started out like yours: two kids copping a smoke are hassled by a policeman. The only difference, however, is that 12 years ago, the kid's would wind up doing ten years to life in jail. And here you're complaining about a traffic ticket! By the way, it's too late to register to vote in Oregon. But you might pass up a nickel bag and send the money to OMI (Box 8698, Portland, OR 97209).

continued over

LETTERS

CRAIG SHANNON



LIKES HIS CROW

Come ON. You folks are sounding more and more like the Tobacco Institute in your continued insistence that marijuana use does not pose risks. Let's be honest (and eat a little crow together) and admit there is growing evidence to support contentions that marijuana use can impair learning and performance (up to 24 hours after use), produce fetal complications if used during pregnancy, retard emotional development during adolescence, impair the efficiency of the smoker's lungs, and may indeed be carcinogenic. And if marijuana use does have a negative effect on the user's immune system (as has been debated for some time) shouldn't we be trumpeting that news in light of the risk of AIDS?

—Stephen Newman, Ed.D.
Director of Substance Abuse
Mecklenburg County
Area Mental Health Authority
Charlotte, North Carolina

Ed—No thanks, Steve. You're welcome to chomp on all the crow you like, but we'll sit out this one, okay? In 12 years of publishing, HIGH TIMES has never claimed marijuana use does not pose risks. In fact, we've expressed "continued insistence," as you put it, that growing young kids shouldn't smoke pot. Ditto for pregnant women. We've tackled every one of your standard medical myths—"fetal complications," cancer-scare talk, and all the other lies that have been invented by anti-pot docs over the years. However, this AIDS rumor is quite new, and—to our knowledge—you are the first "doctor" who has tried to plant it in print. You might check with Dr. Howard Freiberg (M.D.) at the University of South Florida, who went looking for marijuana-induced derangements of the immune system. Dr.

Freiberg reported to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (which funded his work) that ordinary, moderate doses of THC actually fortify the immune system slightly! So you can eat your damned AIDS-scare horseshit along with the rest of that crow. By the way, in November, HIGH TIMES plans a special Name-The-Dope-Doc Jubilee, in which we explode these marijuana myths once and for all, while identifying the dope driveler responsible for promoting them.

ADVANCED MYCOLOGY

I am writing in hopes of getting some information I can't locate anywhere else. I've been glancing at my copy of the *Psychedelic Encyclopedia* by Peter Stafford. On page 64 there's a picture of four gentlemen attending the Second International Conference on Hallucinogenic Mushrooms held in October, 1977, in Port Townsend, Washington. I spent October of 1981 on the Queen Charlotte Islands in British Columbia, an island famous for mushrooms. While I was there, I was told the meetings are still being held. Do you know of such meetings and if so, where and when are they held?

—GTEES
Mackenzie B.C., Canada

Ed—Thanks for giving us another chance to plug next month's Gala Mushroom Special Section. If anyone has any information on the conference, please write us a note and we'll publish it in October.

WANTS AND NEEDS DRUGS

Please send me all information on how to order items in your Trans-High Market Quotations. Send COMPLETE details. Please rush.

—H.M.
Orange Park, Florida

Ed—Sure you aren't from Texas? Can't you guys find any dope by yourselves?!

SPACE CASE

I was reading Ed Hassle's "Amerika" in your June issue, and I wondered where I can get in touch with his guru Ramjam, the guy who told him aliens from Mars and Venus love pot. I was tokin' up with some far out chicks the other nite, and we were really getting off when one of them "confessed" that she had come from Mars to get Earth pot. I laughed, until I read about these alien heads in "Amerika." I'd like to know more about this phenomenon.

—Flyin' High
Plains, Texas

ED—Look to the skies, my son.

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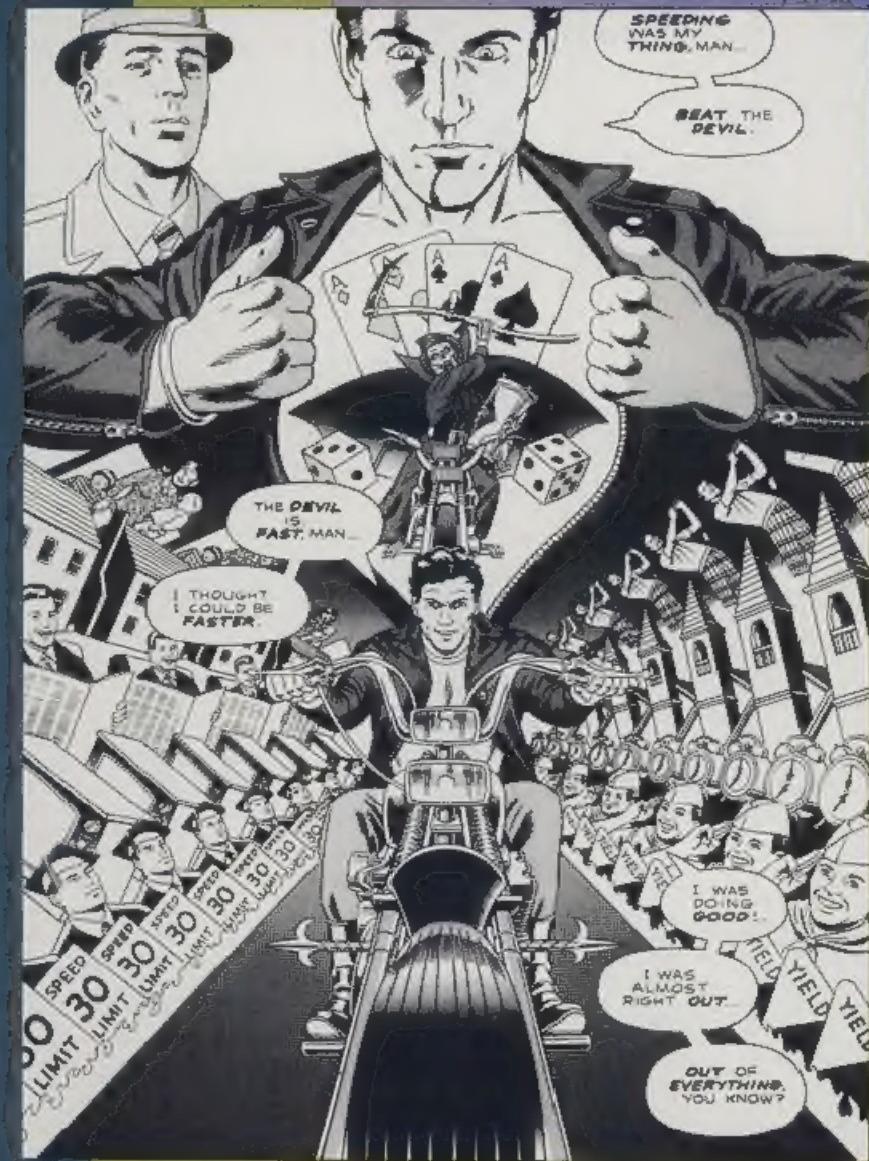
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FLASHES



We've heard of flyin' high, but British skydiver Ms. Gisele Gubbins (seen here with husband Wally) takes it to the next.

HOT THRILLS

● Reading mystery novels is a classic high in the summertime, but **Murder By Remote Control** (Available Press, \$4.95) takes you way out with its quirky story and trippy visuals. Written by noted detective story writer Janwillem van de Wetering, **Murder** is an illustrated thriller, with stunning cinematic graphics from the pen of Paul Kirchner (writer/artist of the *Dope Rider* series in **HIGH TIMES**). The quirky puzzle begins weirdly—an oil company exec is killed by a dive-bombing model airplane—and proceeds to get even stranger as Detective Jim Brady checks out four suspects. He survives a dose of mushroom tea and a run-in with a drug smuggling sheriff to crack the case. **Murder By Remote Control** is one brain-tickling mystery that's a literal eye catcher as well. ●

NEWS FLASH NEWS FLASH NEWS FLASH NEWS FLASH NEWS

punk porn

Jello Biafra, lead singer for the Dead Kennedys band, and four other record label and distribution personnel face up to a year in prison and a \$2000 fine on criminal charges of distributing harmful material to minors. Despite a warning sticker attached to their LP *Frankenchrist* ("The inside fold-out to this record cover is a work of art by H.R. Giger that some people may find shocking, repulsive, or offensive"), the sale of the record album with the enclosed poster by the Academy Award winning artist (special effects for *Alien*) which depicts ten sets of intertwined genitalia was judged to be a criminal act by the L.A. prosecutors. After the charges were filed, copies of the poster were no longer enclosed in the album; the poster is available for .50 from the Dead Kennedys if a signed statement is included stating that the recipient is over 18. The Dead Kennedys have formed a defense fund: contributions may be sent to the No More Censorship Fund, P.O. Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101.



HALLUCINAVISIONS

There's a vast body of art which paints quite a different picture of American reality than that shown by the "official" art of the status quo. This altered state art has blossomed from the seeds of graphic expression painted by the major influences of the 60s—rock n' roll, political protest, the quest for spiritual growth and mind-expanding drugs. You know what we're talking about: psychedelic art! Not just a '60s time capsule, it has developed into a vibrant tool in the search for higher human consciousness.

Psychedelic Solution, located in New York's Greenwich Village, is an effort to pull together this body of art and its artists, and to present its many messages to the world. **Psychedelic Solution** is a retail outlet for posters, postcards and handbills as well as a gallery showing art by such prominent psychedelic artists as **Rick Griffin**, showing in September. The purely exploitative, trendy aspects of the current '60s revival may pass, but some visions are here to stay.



• While wandering down Orleans street, we happened upon, after a night being clear, took us to a mind-blowing place where every surface was covered in consciousness payload. And indeed, mighty fed.

PHOTOTRON

OVER 3,000 SOLD.

HAWAII VS. THE PHOTOTRON

Hello, my name is Jeffrey Demerco, President and Founder of PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES.

My masters thesis is on the cannabinoid profile of marijuana. Tell you this for historical took notes only.

In pursuit of my own masters thesis, I generated the most extensive popular literature library in the world. Then, I generated the most extensive library in the world. I then went into a laboratory Federal Laboratory at University and designed a laboratory practice called the PHOTOTRON.

If you read all of the popular literature, I did. All of the scientific literature, I did. Every apparatus that is in High Times, you find one common denominator. Every system, UP TILL NOW, has attempted to re-create Hawaii. I suggest that when you finally achieve the re-creation of Hawaii, you can do NO BETTER than Hawaii's results. AND WHAT HAWAII'S RESULTS?

In fact you will grow the plant 6 to 8 months 6 to 12 feet tall. In fact you will average a 1/2 inch internodal length (distance between nodes). In fact have a 100% budding ratio above tops of the plant. In fact, throw away 90% of the plant material (leaves and shake). And in fact, YOU MUST START ALL OVER AGAIN.

Look. The only thing I'm waiting nine months for is a baby, number one. Number two, I'd like to see all new, no old. Number three, I don't want to do it again. I want to move on to the next project. My plants, do not like me. Do not like me. I don't like them. I don't like them.

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photograph presented from university conducted research for Masters Thesis entitled "Factors Controlling Resin Production and Plant Growth" pertains to any plant.

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HIGHWITNESS NEWS

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THESE DRUGS CAN RUIN YOUR LIFE!

by Claire Winston-Levy

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The popular painkillers Advil, Nuprin, Motrin and Naprosyn have been officially added to the list of drugs which can get people fired or turned down for employment when they show up mistakenly as "THC" on marijuana-seeking urinalysis machines.

The discovery that such common over-the-counter painkillers as Advil "cross-react" (a euphemism for "false positives") with THC on urine-test machines was made in 1984, after these machines had already been in widespread use for four years, by technicians at BioAnalytical Technologies, a professional testing service in Chicago. The lab had been enlisted in that year to run the specimens of a professional football team, and when every single one of the 54 athletes involved came up positive for "marijuana" on their

EMIT Cannabinoid Assay, the lab techs decided to re-check them using a better assay (and thus avoided touching off a media drugs-in sports scandal that would still be making headlines to this day.) When none of the samples pulled THC positives on gas chromatography with mass spectrometry (GC/MS), the BioAnalytical people interviewed the

team's trainer, who said he'd recommended that his football players use Advil to alleviate the pain from the numerous bruises and sprains they all sustained in the course of their work. So the lab had some people take Advil, and tested them on their EMIT assay for THC: sure enough, the results were "positive."

The Syva Company of Palo Alto, California, which merchandises the EMIT enzyme-immunoassay drug test for the Syntex drug company, waited over two years before stipulating that Advil and similar painkillers cross-react with pot on their machines. In the meantime they altered their EMIT instrumentation somewhat, replacing their standard "substrate" reagent enzyme, malate dehydrogenase (MDH) with a new enzyme, glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD). So when they finally advised their customers about the Advil cross-reaction problem this spring, Syva was able to say that it *probably* only occurs with their older MDH-based tests, and it *probably* shouldn't be as much of a problem with their new, improved G6PD tests.

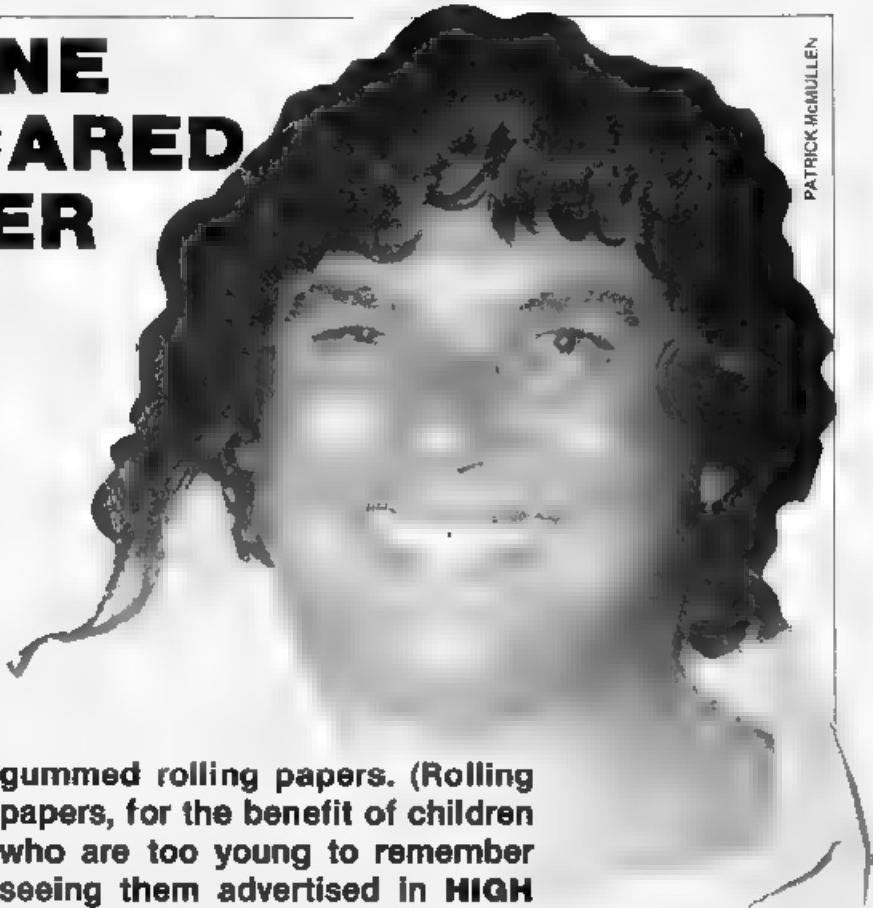
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An entire professional football team tested "positive" for THC because the players used Advil.

ROLLING STONE STAFFERS SCARED SHITLESS OVER PISS TESTS!

by Mark Swain

Rumors of secret drug use by some staffers at **ROLLING STONE**, the counterculture's Bible of Rock & Roll, recently prompted publisher Jann Wenner to crack down with a tough, no-nonsense urinalysis policy. Under new guidelines which "prohibit use of drugs on Company premises or being under the influence of drugs during working hours," **ROLLING STONE**'s management now "reserves the right to test employees with regard to alcohol or drug use." The magazine will, however, continue to mainly run ads for liquor, cigarettes, beer, and



PATRICK MCMLLEN

gummed rolling papers. (Rolling papers, for the benefit of children who are too young to remember seeing them advertised in **HIGH TIMES**, are frequently used as paraphernalia to prepare marijuana "joints.")

Wenner

DRUG TEST SHOCKER: ALKALOID SCORES AS DOPE!

by Dean Latimer
NEW YORK CITY

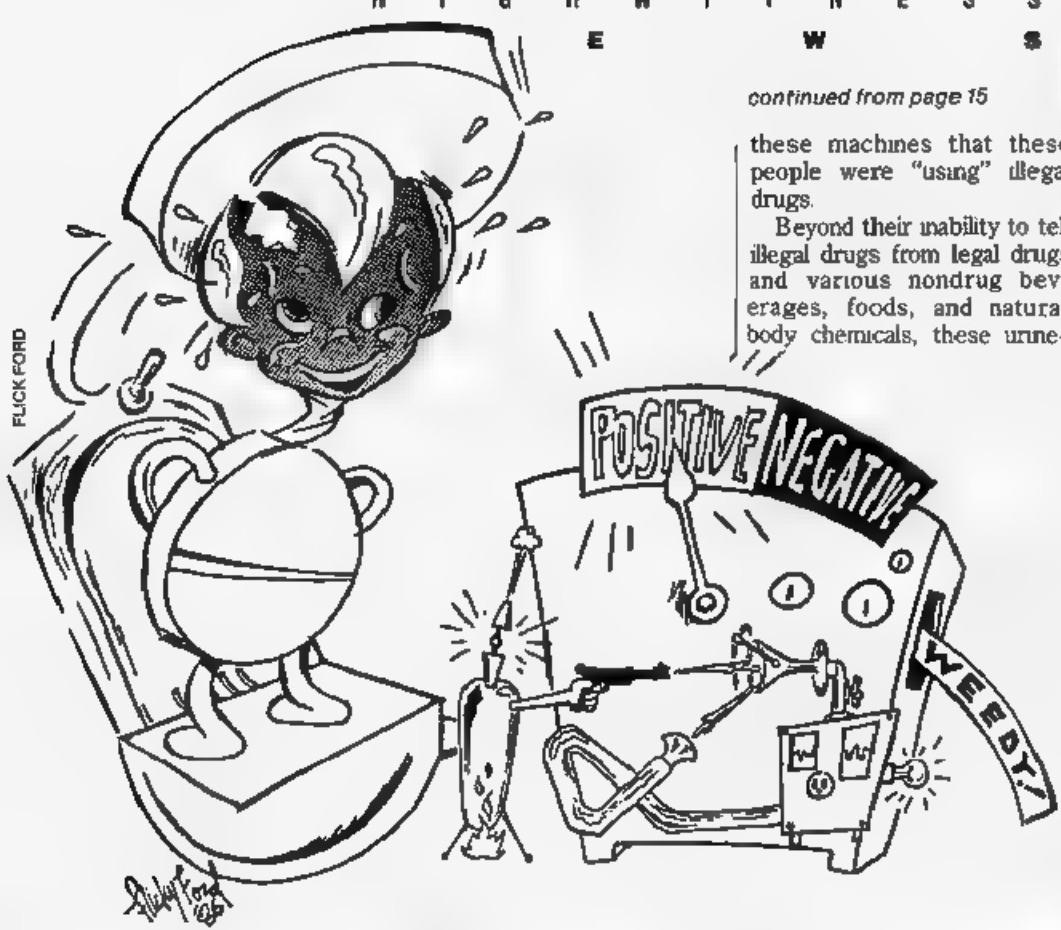
Drug-urine test machines routinely mis-identify commonplace over-the-counter drugs as illegal drugs such as heroin and amphetamines, the manufacturers of the most widely-used commercial drug-testing paraphernalia recently conceded in papers filed with the federal General Accounting Office. Moreover, stipulates the Syntex Syva company of California in its declaration to the GAO, the built-in inadequacies in the design of their machines which cause them to cross-react with legal drugs are shared equally

by the machines of their sole competitor on the drug-urinalysis market, the Hoffman-Hoffman-Laroche/Roche Diagnostics company of New Jersey. And yet their testing machines have been used on hundreds of thousands of people over the last five years—in employment and pre-employment screenings, in the armed services, and in correctional institutions—and scores of thousands of people have been deprived of their livelihoods, and materially harmed in other ways, by the determination of

continued over



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Daryl Ford

continued from page 15

these machines that these people were "using" illegal drugs.

Beyond their inability to tell illegal drugs from legal drugs and various nondrug beverages, foods, and natural body chemicals, these urine-

test machines also suffer from numerous design flaws and limitations which make them extremely susceptible to operator error, as the Syntex/Syva company painstakingly explains in its GAO presentation. The Syva Company—the hardware subsidiary of the Syntex drug company of Palo Alto, California—merely manufactures and merchandises its line of drug urine tests, called the "EMIT" enzyme-immunoassay series. The actual testing of employees, service personnel and prisoners is carried out by hundreds of different private commercial laboratories and local hospitals which buy the EMIT gear from Syva. Syva has no systematic way of determining whether all these commercial lab techs are operating their gear properly and proficiently. Exactly the same situation obtains with the Roche Diagnostics company in Nutley, N.J., which merchandises Hoffman-LaRoche's "Abuscreen" radio-immunoassay series of drug-urine tests.

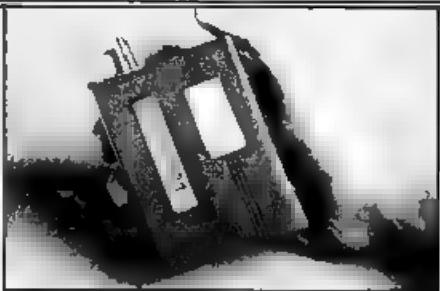
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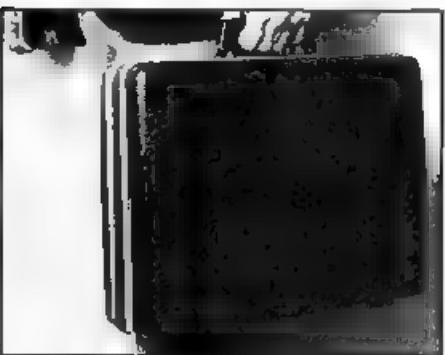
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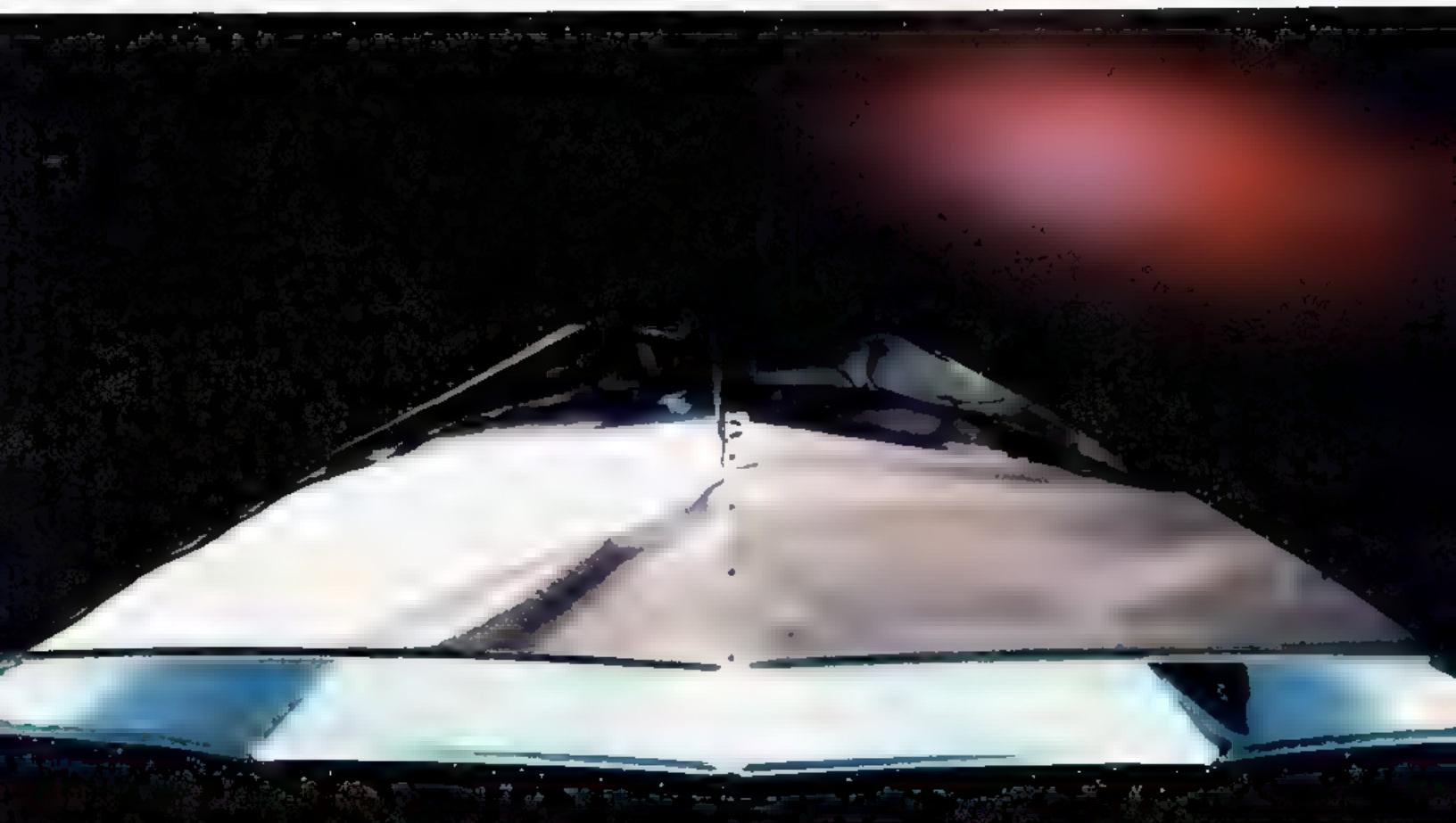
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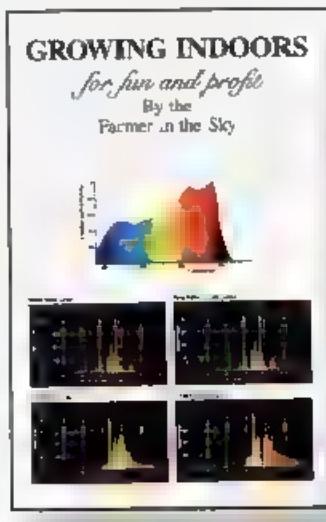
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continued from page 14

Manufacturers admit that their drug tests will show Contac as "speed" and Nyquil as "heroin."

Chemists and pharmacologists interviewed by HIGH TIMES see no reason to assume that this switch from one cheap drug-seeking reagent to another should make the EMIT pot test any more reliable. Advil is just one of nearly a dozen chemically-related drugstore painkillers—"nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory compounds" like Nuprin, Naprosyn, Motrin, and so on—classed as "aryl-alkanoic" drugs. All these drugs were developed in the '70s as aspirin substitutes, after it was discovered that any compound which reduces the activity in the body of certain pain-promoting hormones called "prostaglandins" would be as effective as aspirin at killing minor headache, toothache, and arthritic pain. The Syntex company has warned that all these other "anti-inflammatory" drugs are likely to cross-react with THC on its marijuana test.

Marijuana itself alleviates minor pain of this sort by directly inhibiting the production of pain-promoting prostaglandins in the body, and that's obviously the critical connection between pot and these drugstore painkillers. "It's not at all surprising to hear that Advil cross-reacts with THC on these immunoassays," declared Dr. Sumner Burstein of the University of Massachusetts Medical School when told of the Syva Company's problems this spring. In 1972, it was Dr. Burstein who discovered that "moderate" doses of delta-9 THC (the sort of doses a human being would get from smoking pot) reduce the production of prostaglandin hormones in test tubes. "On a basic functional level," he explains, "these new anti-inflammatory painkiller compounds are virtually identical to the prime end-product of delta-9 THC in the body, which is 9-carboxy THC acid. The 9-carboxy acid has painkilling effects exactly identical to these drugs. And since it's the 9-carboxy acid these immunoassays are looking for, it shouldn't be surprising when they give positive results on compounds so closely related to THC." ●

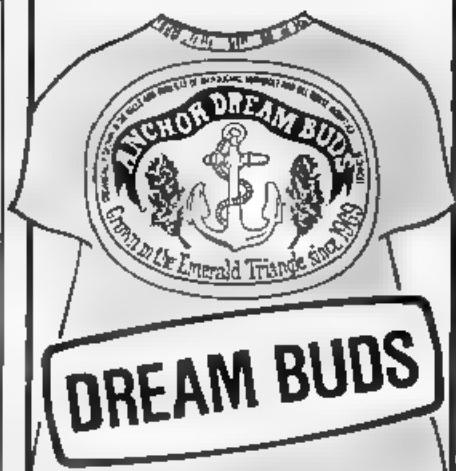
In fact, in its recent lawsuit against the Department of Defense (see lead article in this section), the Syva Company stipulated that the drug-seeking antibody reagents in its THC tests are designed to react with a broad variety of THC-like "metabolites" of marijuana in urine. Therefore, the EMIT's cross-reaction problems are very likely not due to its enzyme reagents at all, but to its antibody reagents. If this is so (and scientists are only now beginning to look into the question), then Syva's switch of enzyme reagents will do nothing at all to protect headache sufferers and arthritics from being branded for life as "drug addicts" because their painkillers showed up positive on the EMIT pot assay. Moreover, if this cross-reaction problem involves their antibody reagent, then the EMIT's main competitor in drug urinalysis—the Abuscreen THC test from the Roche company in New Jersey—is also in trouble, because the Abuscreen uses similar drug-seeking antibodies.

Ironically, one of the best-selling drug store painkillers on the market, which cross-reacts with THC like Advil does on the EMIT machinery, is Naprosyn, a product of the Syntex drug company of Palo Alto: sole owners of the Syva Company, which merchandises the EMIT Cannabinoid Assay itself.

These two Syntex products have a happy synergy. Syntex recently advised its investors that sales of Naprosyn in the third quarter of the 1986 fiscal year, amounted to \$122,800,000 of the corporation's total \$254,300,000 sales for that quarter. At the same time, sales of their EMIT drug tests totalled \$26,200,000, a handsome advance of 16 percent over the previous quarters.

An attorney consulted by HIGH TIMES (who begged to remain anonymous) chuckled when he heard about this: "Here's a company that makes millions on drug-testing machines that just happen to incriminate people who take their best selling painkiller. And this has been going on for years, and the company knew all about it, but they didn't bother to tell anybody about it until just now. Those people are likely to need plenty of their own headache pills when the lawsuits start, won't they?" ●

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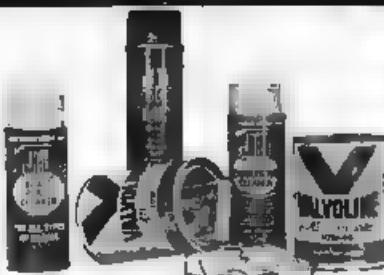
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ALKA SHOCK

continued from page 16

When people are fired or denied employment on the basis of these machines' indiscriminate results, moreover, there is very little chance that they can mount civil action in court for damages against either Syva or Roche. As Syva's GAO papers succinctly describe it, both companies are careful to advise the labs which buy their machines that the EMIT and Abuscreen are really just "class assays," designed to seek for broad categories of drug-type substances in urine. Their tests for "heroin," for example, are actually designed to look for numerous substances similar in basic structure to morphine, the basic opiate molecule; as Syva stipulates, these opioid substances include *dextromethorphan*, a nonaddicting cough suppressant found in numerous common, wholly-uncontrolled drugstore nostrums like Nyquil, Dorcol Children's Cough Syrup, Comtrex, Pedia-Care, and Benylin.

As to their "amphetamine" urine tests, both the EMIT and Abuscreen tests yield amphetamine positives on phenylpropanolamine, or PPA, a mild decongestant. PPA is the prime active ingredient in dozens of common drugstore medications, including Alka-Seltzer Plus and Quadrahist Pediatric Syrup, as well as popular weight-reduction preparations like Dexatrim and Dietac, advertised nightly on prime-time television.

Astonishingly, the Syva papers also identify *ephedrine* as a drug which cross-reacts with amphetamine on both the EMIT and Abuscreen assays. Ephedrine is a plant-derived drug with decongestant effects similar to PPA's; it occurs in such common OTC drugs as Pramatene, Quadrinal, Tedral, Bronkotabs, and so on. Decongestants like ephedrine and PPA are so extremely commonplace that the main reference volume for commercial drugs, the annually-published *Physician's Desk Reference*, does not even bother to list them when they occur in ultra-popular medications like Contac.

Therefore, anyone who's been fired from or denied a job over the last five years, because these tests indicated that she or he was "using" heroin or speed, may really have only been taking some OTC medication for a temporary mild ailment on the day the test was given. However, none of these people is likely to have much of a chance of suing Syva or Roche successfully for damages. As the Syva writers assure the GAO, "both companies make a clear statement that the assay is a 'class' assay" when they sell their machines to private lab companies. When salespeople for those lab companies then fail to advise their own

The logo features a central illustration of a man with glasses and a suit, standing behind a podium and speaking into a microphone. The background consists of two arched banners. The left banner contains the text "TRANS-HIGH MARKET" and the right banner contains "QUOTATIONS".

MAJOR MARKETS

Atlanta, Ga.	Marijuana, North Ga. since primo, "Farm Acid"	oz	125	gold, into high. Puna buds, Waimea Wipeout Afghan mango hash	hash, rare	oz	120
	Hash was plentiful	gm	10	Homegrown, red-haired green	Mushrooms, intense trip"	gm	6
	Mushrooms, when avail.	6-8		Skunk buds from Texas "the best"	Acid 4-way red	oz	1.0
	LSD, pink blotter "insatiable demand quan & qual GOOD"	1000	1000	Mexican brown, lots of trash	Acid, the best"	one	14
	White blotter one	5		"Ozark brown," few seeds/stems, it's everywhere	Acid, Robert's Rainbow "in	one	250
	Cocaine 80+ % oz		16-1800	Afghan black "light-headed"	(ense trip, but profitable	one	100
	Bogota Mule Train Columbian Mafia, "they're here"			Opium, "strong"	Acid, white hooter, "not that good"	one	50
	Cocaine 80+ "dangerous scene, like Mafia power struggles"	oz	1800	Acid pyramids, good trip	Acid, purple macro, "rare but good"	one	5
	MDMA XTC pure white powder "Transcendental Medication!"	1/8-oz	250	"Mushrooms anonymous"	Gelatin Cid "imported from Boston"	one	150
	Methamphetamine H.U. L A X ? "good, pure ride"	gm	80	gm	cocaine, too much, "too expensive"	one	100
	Qualiaudes questionable origin & content, most likely "valer ludes"	one	5	100	"XTC" (MDMA), "the best"	one	350
Beverly Hills, Ca.	Sativa, small buds, "heavy resin"	1/4-lb	650	150	No Calif semiilla tops	oz	50-200
	Indica, large buds, "sticky primo"	1/4-lb	700	200	Mexican, "low-octane, since '80s"	lb	75-100
	Hash, blonde fib, sucks, "not like good old days"	gm	10	Atghan buds, best in city, rare"	lb	600-800	
	Acid blots, "Black Doves" clean, 80 mcg.	one	250	Mexican greens "pretty good"	os	100-150	
	Cocaine "good & plenty but who needs it?"	gm	90-120	Green Indica, rare "beautiful high"	lb	1400-1600	
Boston, Ma.	Suspiria, buds galore	1/2-oz	40	Thai, dry "golden"	lb	190-210	
	Sinse "yellow, like hay"	1/2-oz	50	Mexican scum bag dirt weed, seeds	lb	1900-2100	
	Thai stick, "very potent"	1/4-oz	50	Rasta buds, "best Jamaican"	lb	50-80	
	Colombian, "good"	oz	200	Lebanese hash, "dark & rich"	lb	600-800	
	Colombo reg, "pretty good"	lb	700	Mushrooms, high-quality cubensis	lb	150-170	
	Lumbo rag jar, tea, driedweed"	lb	500	LSD blotter "easy to find"	one	100	
	Mesquite purple star, "best around"	one	4	MJMA wide spread use"	one	50-100	
	green star, "too much speed"	50	60	Crystal meth "common"	gm	6-10	
	red star, "not too trippy"	one	4	Coke use very rare	gm	100-120	
	LSD blotter, "hard to find"	one	4	Washington, DC Rasta Sunse, high grade, hard buds	oz	120	
	windowpane clear	100	100	Skunk buds	lb	1500-2000	
	pyramid, "this and that"	one	1	Thai buds	lb	1300-1700	
	Coke "96% pure," sparkling rocks	200	200	Arizona Suspermilla	lb	700-1000	
Honolulu, Hw.	Pakauko (Hawaiian sunsemilla	3/4-gm	290	Brown commercial dirt	lb	300-500	
	1/2-gm	150		Black hash Shrooms	oz	120	
	3-gms	20		Shrooms	gm	7-9	
	1/4-oz	35.00		LSD: Purple mid Blotter "killer"	oz	1.0	
	oz	70		Strawberry mess	one	3-5	
	lb	100		very good"	one	4-7	
	Prices increase 50%-200% when	lb	230	Paper acid rip off	one	4-7	
				Cocaine good as the shit comes	oz	100	
				84% pure rock synthetic	oz	1400-2000	
				XTC	one	700	
				Bootleg ludes	one	15-25	
				PCP, Liquid One	one	5-6	
				Loveboat	oz	100+	
				Sherman Stick	one	3-6	
					oz	400	
					oz	375	
					oz	40	

AROUND THE WORLD

ACTIVIST NEWS



READERS RESPOND

The response to Activist News has been exciting. Unfortunately, time and space prevent us from printing in full all the excellent letters and comments we receive. The Readers Respond column is to provide a forum for comments, ideas and expressions taken from the many letters we get from around the world. Keep sending us those letters and questions. Activist News, P.O. Box 20525, New York, N.Y. 10025.

FROM CALIFORNIA:

"To the extent which NORML opposes prohibition of marijuana, I stand steadfastly behind you. However, I envision a society evolved to the point made by our Founding Fathers in the preamble to the Constitution in which they stated, *inter alia*, that "...the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness..." is 'self evident' and 'inalienable.' We need not condescend to the obvious: one's actions (or omissions) must not infringe upon the rights of others."

FROM WEST VIRGINIA:

"I was busted in 1983 for less than 15 grams of marijuana. While in police custody, I was beaten, my head stuck in a state trooper's toilet, and called a drug addict. In front of the magistrate (and God), the s.o.b.s lied and said I was so stoned, I fell down... Right. Up until that time, I had faith in my country, but not now... The police are the

enforcement branch of the administrative branch of our government. Being beaten by a cop is the same as Ronald Reagan kicking your ass."

Selective enforcement and police brutality associated with marijuana prohibition have made a mockery of respect for the law among the many who are victimized for being familiar with its pharmacological/recreational use.

FROM UTAH:

"Much is known about the hemp plant, otherwise known as marijuana. Its history of use dates back to 600 B.C. The type of information the media has released about the hemp plant has kept the public blind to the truth. The fact is, marijuana is not the evil killer weed as portrayed in the 1930's film, *Reefer Madness*. The public deserves to know the truth."

FROM FLORIDA:

"After 15 years of everyday ganja use, the only ill effect

(aside from being kicked out of my home) has been being busted for a gram of herb two days ago in Dade County, Florida. Please inform me what I can do to right this wrong."

Get involved!

FROM PENNSYLVANIA:

"Far as I'm concerned, pot should be legalized. It should never have been placed in the dangerous drug category in the first place (thank the LaGuardia Commission for that). It isn't physically addicting and it's far better for you than booze. Decriminalization is nice, but it doesn't solve the original sin of putting it into the narcotics category in the first place."

The original misclassification of cannabis as a narcotic has spread the error and infected legislative decisions since, at the local, state, federal and international levels.

FROM TEXAS:

"Doesn't anyone out there know that brain damage can be attributable to a frame of mind?"

FROM CALIFORNIA:

"I did a research paper on marijuana compared to alcohol. The evidence that I found made me very angry. Alcohol is far more dangerous than marijuana! Yet marijuana is still condemned by the people with political power who have their four martinis before their sessions."

Alcohol related deaths each year number in the hundreds of thousands (not counting the 50% of all highway deaths or the 65% of all murders associated with alcohol). The number of deaths attributed to marijuana each year is "0".

FROM ILLINOIS:

"Recently in Illinois and Indiana, the military was used to destroy domestic crops. Since the majority of every tax dollar goes to military spending, we are in effect financing this absurdity. This is crazy. Don't 50 million plus tax payers have any representation? We have to change this situation soon. I don't want my children (should they choose to use cannabis)

to have to fight this battle. Nor do I want them to spend their lives looking over their shoulders. Let's all work together to change this situation soon."

Yes, 50 million people together do have power. But we all have to get involved. There are some pretty strong lobbies out there who represent the opposition: industries that would lose hundreds of billions of dollars if marijuana were legalized. These include the wood pulp paper industry; petrochemical and pharmaceutical industries; state, local and federal enforcement agencies; penal institutions; and now, industries that manufacture and market drug testing programs.

FROM CALIFORNIA:

"I believe we need to fight this government for our rights. As adults, we should have the right to relax after work with a joint and not worry about inhaling paraquat and 2-4D." *Nothing erodes respect for government more quickly than repressive laws which deny us our simple daily pleasures after a hard day's work. Especially when ½ of the hours we spend working, we are laboring for the government, and most of the rest of our time and energy is used up paying for the expensive, polluting, unhealthy energy costs built into every product we buy.*

FROM NORTH CAROLINA:

"I think that the 'drug war,' and the prohibition of marijuana that our government sponsors, is taking away one of the most precious gifts that God gave us: a free will to choose for ourselves and by ourselves."

FROM MINNESOTA:

"I am a strong believer that our society has evolved and matured to the point where it can make its own decisions on pot smoking at an individual and private level." *Unfortunately our government is suffering from a Big Brother complex.*

continued from page 20

customers—employers seeking to drug-test job applicants and employees—that these tests will show Contac as "speed" and Nyquil as "heroin," that's not the fault of these drug-test manufacturers.

Bladder Brigands at Daggers Drawn

For anyone unacquainted with the inside workings of the burgeoning commercial drug-urinalysis industry, the Syva Company's bald-face stipulations to so many fatal design flaws in their own EMIT system must appear incomprehensible. The company has made millions of dollars since 1981 on the sales of EMITs, and was one of the steadier listings on the New York Stock Exchange over that time. Why then should Syva suddenly enumerate all these appalling glitches in the EMIT's design, in public documents easily retrievable from the General Accounting Office in Washington?

The reason is that Syva has been the victim of a grave injustice, or so many people at the Syntex Corporation's opulent Silicon Valley headquarters bitterly believe. In the late 1970s, Syntex commenced plunging immense sums into the development of drug-urine machinery by its Syva hardware division, because the company was due in 1983 to lose its exclusive patent on estrogen-based birth-control medications (Anadrol-50, Norinyl, Neo-Sylar Cream, etc.). After 1983, sales of Syva's birth-control preparations were sure to drop as rival drug companies began producing their own estrogen contraceptives; therefore Syntex diversified beforehand into the urine-testing business, with its patented EMIT enzyme-immunoassay system produced through Syva. And Syva merchandised its gear very aggressively to the armed services, to correctional programs, and to employers everywhere, so that after 1983 the Syntex company would stay solvent and buoyantly profitable.

However, at almost exactly the same time, Hoffman-LaRoche (much larger and more well-established than Syntex) launched its Roche Diagnostics division to produce the Abuscreen radio-immunoassay drug tests. As Syva contends in these 1986 GAO papers—and their position is backed up by leading authorities in the field of analytical chemistry—radio-immunoassays (RIAs) and enzyme-immunoassays (EIAs) are basically identical in all pertinent respects. The main difference between them is that the Abuscreen RIA uses radioactive chemical reagents, and the EMIT EIA doesn't: no significant difference in design or reliability of results, but just enough difference in materials employed that Roche could get a separate patent on its equipment, and merchandise it in competition with the EMIT equipment.

Still, Syva's EMIT went into commercial production in 1981, well ahead of Roche's

Abuscreen, and with a much more vigorous merchandising campaign. Thus in 1982, when the Department of Defense put out a multimillion-dollar contract to have the urine samples of service personnel screened for drugs, Syva was the beneficiary. A lab company in North Carolina, Mead Compu-Chem of Research Triangle Park, began testing thousands of service people's specimens for drugs every month, using Syva's EMIT gear.

Within two years, the DoD juked the EMIT. DoD figures in 1984 showed a steady 49-percent rate of "unconfirmed urinalysis positives" on Mead's EMIT machines, and up to 100 percent false positives in service labs elsewhere. As a result, the DoD ultimately had to advise scores of thousands of former armed services personnel—who had been thrown out of the services, and in many cases jailed, because of erroneous "illegal-drug" urine positives—that the tests had been erroneous, and that they should apply for reinstatement of rank and full back pay.

In March of 1985, therefore, the DoD advised Mead Compu-Chem that if they wanted to keep their lucrative DoD urinalysis contract, they had better switch from Syva's EMIT gear to Roche's Abuscreen RIA. Mead promptly did so—they would have been crazy to do otherwise before the DoD that year issued a formal contract solicitation for a drug urinalysis service employing strictly "radioimmunoassay" gear.

Syva, understandably, promptly complained about this move by the DoD. They went to the General Accounting Office, charging the DoD with unrightfully depriving them of millions of dollars in Defense Department money through discriminatory trade practices. The Roche Abuscreen RIA was in no wise superior to the EMIT EIA process, Syva contended. Out of honest desperation, the Silicon Valley company conceded that its EIA urinalysis gear was woefully prone to indiscriminate cross-reaction problems—Nyquil showing up as "heroin," Alka-Seltzer Plus as "speed," and so on—but they firmly advised the government that the Abuscreen could not possibly be any better, or any worse: "the same issues and problems in confirmation exist for RIA," they emphasized repeatedly in their GAO exhibits.

"EMIT is comparable in reliability to RIA and superior in other ways," the Syva Company declares in these papers. Both drug-screening systems are extremely cheap, which is why the DoD and employers prefer them over better, though much more expensive, noncommercial testing techniques like gas chromatography with mass spectrometry (GC/MS). Whenever a sample is found positive for any class of drugs by EIA or EMIT, Syva points out, the DoD then has that sample retested by

continued on page 28

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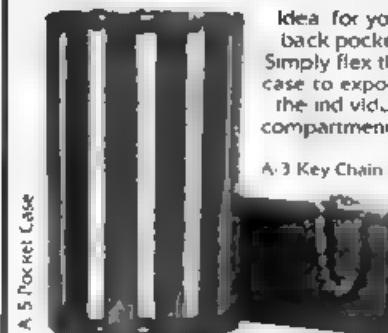
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OMI or BUST Summer is just about peaking, and the campaign to legalize marijuana in Oregon is in high gear. To all of you who have supported our efforts to date, a sincere thanks. But the longest road is in the next few months ahead. The battle for control of drug policy will be fought this November, and we hope to convince the voters of Oregon that legalizing marijuana is the sensible solution. Legalizing pot will free up money and manpower to combat more serious crime, and make a lot of us breathe a whole lot easier! So if you haven't given to OMI yet, please send your money today. If you can afford the price of an ounce of pot you can't afford not to support OMI. And if you have any resources, skills, etc. you can volunteer Give OMI a chance.

READERS RESPOND

"High Folks. I read your column in every issue of *High Times* and enjoy learning about what's happening around the country. I am hoping you can spare a few lines in your column for us in Indianapolis. As you may know, Indiana has some of the most oppressive marijuana laws in the country. Unfortunately, most of the Hoosier Hipsters are unaware just how bad the situation really is across the state. We need everyone who is concerned about human rights to lend some time, talent, and \$ to our cause. We need to encourage people to take action against the status quo by registering to vote and support candidates who will support reform. Recently our chapter has become very active again after a few years declining. We have a few projects underway and we can use all the help we can get. Everyone in Indiana should write so we can organize some political action before election time this fall."

Mark A. Gilbert
Indianapolis NORML
3601 N Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46205

"YOUR" ANALYSIS In late September, NORML and the Legal Action Center in NYC will sponsor a conference to discuss urinalysis policy. Fifteen to twenty experts from

REFORM REPORT

civil liberties, health, and toxicology fields will meet to make recommendations and issue a report. For further info, contact the Legal Action Center, 153 Waverly Place, 8th Floor, N.Y., NY 10014, (212) 243-1313.

NEWS REVIEWS

Marinol, a synthetic, anti-emetic THC pill, will soon be available to cancer chemotherapy patients. NORML had blocked the manufacture of the chemical pot pill until the DEA agreed to hold hearings on the reclassification of marijuana. The DEA has agreed to ask an administrative law judge to conduct hearings on the rescheduling of marijuana and its component parts in exchange for NORML withdrawing its objection. NORML had objected to the rescheduling of THC because it only dealt with the synthetic version. The release of the pill marks the first time a Schedule I drug has been reclassified and made available for medical uses. Notices of the hearing will be published in the Federal Register and comments invited. For the latest info, contact NORML. According to James Woodford, an Atlanta, Ga. chemist and expert witness who testifies in court cases concerning drug abuse, the pigment melanin is chemically similar to THC and may lead to an inaccurate positive reading on a urinalysis test. Melanin is present in everyone but present in higher degrees in blacks and Hispanics. Dark skinned people are therefore more likely than others to be wrongly accused of marijuana use, he said. Woodford based his conclusion on the fact that in a group of police cadets who tested

positive for use of marijuana, 10 of 20 blacks and Hispanics tested positive and only 3 of 23 white cadets. Woodford has suggested that the melanin was responsible for the larger positive percentage among blacks and Hispanics.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Oregon Activists in Mosier, Oregon, successfully lobbied against a local confiscation bill. More and more municipalities and states are adopting legislation which allows for the confiscation of personal property used in the commission of a crime, i.e. "drug dealing." These bills are modeled after measures set forth in the Crime Control Act of 1884 which allowed the federal government to seize property used in the commission of a crime. Land, houses, boats, planes, cars, etc. are typically fair game under the law. Two of the governments more recent acquisitions include a recording studio in Sausalito and a golf course in Minnesota.

Ohio Bill S-276, which would criminalize the possession of any amount of marijuana, was introduced into the Senate Judiciary Committee by sponsor Sen. Schafraeth.

Federal Bill S-1437, a bill which would officially criminalize the manufacture or distribution of any designer drug, has cleared the U.S. Senate. A similar bill, H.R. 2977, has been introduced to the House Judiciary Committee. Currently, the federal government has been empowered to prosecute designer drugs on a case by case basis under an emergency order.

BILL H.R. 526, introduced by Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY), provides for federal grants to state and local governments for enforcement, treatment, and prevention purposes. The bill authorizes \$625 million for enforcement and \$125 million for treatment and prevention each year over a five year period. The bill has 117 co-sponsors, and the endorsement of many governors and mayors. Senator Daniel Moynihan (D-NY) has introduced a companion bill, S 15, in the Senate.

Local Legislation in Calif.

A new effort to legalize possession and private use of marijuana is underway in California. Author-activist Jack Herer and others are currently petitioning to have this new California Marijuana Initiative placed on the ballot. For further information contact CMI, 11684 Ventura Blvd., Suite 300, Studio City, Calif. 91604, (818) 763-2028.

COURTS RULE

Michael Tate, the quadriplegic who uses marijuana to relieve involuntary muscle spasms associated with his paralysis, has lost a N.J. Supreme Court decision to use medical necessity as a defense. Thomas Culkin, N.J. State Commissioner of Health, had testified on Michael's behalf, declaring the state and federal programs for dispensing marijuana for medical purposes nonexistent. The appellate courts had ruled in Tate's favor. The 4-3 decision is being appealed... The N.J. ACLU won a major victory in defending the rights of students against indiscriminate urine testing. The school board, which had called for mandatory urine screening as part of a routine physical exam, is appealing the ruling. The challenge has suffered a setback, however, since a newly elected board member, whose vote could force the panel to drop the drug testing proposal, said she wants to end the plan.

For more information and to contribute to *Activist News* or *Reform Report* write to us at POB 20525, NY, NY 10025.

● A cornerstone of Chinese herbal medicine, ginseng is a potential cure for Western sufferers.

ABUSE FOLIO

Medical advice by David Smith, M.D. Written by David E. Smith and Rick Seymour of the Haight-Ashbury Free Medical Clinic. The authors do not advocate the use of any psychoactive substances.

GINSENG

- **AKA:** Panax ginseng, panax quinquefolium, *Eleutherococcus senticosus* "root of life," Ginsing Rush, jenshen, shentsao, "cocaine of the natural set"
- **CHARGES:** It is felt in Western circles that the many claims made in China for the efficacy of ginseng as a cure-all and restorative of everything from youth, potency, fertility and energy to falling hair may be overstated. These qualities have not been proven by Western scientific methods.

● **NATURE AND USE:** Several months ago, while preparing an Abuse Folio column on herbal stimulants we ran across an old acquaintance. It brought back memories of '60s communa households in northern California and the distinct smell of Mu Tea boiling into fullness in an old pot on a wood stove. The principle ingredient of Mu Tea was, or at least was supposed to be, ginseng. Pieces of the Chinese root were mixed with such aromatic enhancers as cinnamon, ginger, fo ti, licorice and orange peel to produce the American counterculture's equivalent of the Frenchman's espresso and the Argentine's yerba mate.

Ginseng has been used in the Far East for over 5000 years. Called the "Root of Life," it is a cornerstone of Chinese herbal medicine. The man-shaped root is the most commonly used part of the plant; however, the leaves, called shen-lu, are sold in green and fragrant bundles for use as an emetic and expectorant. The Chinese herbalists identify five different types of ginseng, each of which has a medicinal effect on a different part of the body. In addition to its use as a stimulant, ginseng has been recommended for all forms of weakness including involuntary loss of semen, hemorrhages, dyspepsia, continued fevers, chronic malaria, persistent vomiting of pregnant women, excessive secre-

tion and discharge of urine, general debility, loss of appetite, nervous exhaustion, allaying fear, brightening the eye, opening up the heart, prolonging life, and when all other drugs fail. The closest Western equivalent is the herb dictame, a relative of oregano that grows exclusively on the island of Crete. Dictame was used by the Greek father of medicine, *Aesklepios*, for a wide variety of purposes including the resurrection of dead patients. But that's another story.

Ginseng is said to contain six glycosides called panaxoxides, including dama-ene, and six sapogenins attached to the glycosides which increase endocrine activity, mildly increase metabolic rate, mildly stimulate the circulatory system and digestive processes, maintain homeostasis, and prevent adverse reactions to stress. Ginseng also contains manganese, silica and sodium, as well as the enzymes amylase and phoenolase, and vitamins B-1 and B-2.

The type of ginseng that acts as a general stimulant is called the "true" ginseng. It is said that in order to test for true ginseng, two persons walk together one with a piece of the drug in his mouth and the other with his mouth empty. At the end of three to five li, the Chinese equivalent of a mile, the one with the ginseng in his mouth shouldn't feel tired while the other one will.

There are many legends concerning ginseng. Some of these derive from the generally anthropomorphic shape of the root. Stories going back as far as the Sui dynasty in China report remarkable roots calling out with human voices. The most pervasive stories about ginseng, however, relate to its use as an aphrodisiac.

No less an authority than the Hindu *Upanishads* state that ginseng can bestow on a man "the strength of a bull." This herb will make a man full of such lust that when he is excited "he will exhale heat as a thing on fire." There are no reliable reports of ginseng increasing libido, performance or potency; in fact, anecdotal statements discount the roots' aphrodisiac qualities.

While Western scientists have tended to discount the medical efficacy of ginseng, it should be remembered that accu-

puncture, another mainstay of Oriental medicine, was considered a placebo until the discovery of opioid receptor sites. Nebelkopf reports that Russian scientists are taking the root seriously. Research in the Soviet Union indicates that ginseng can be helpful in treating high blood pressure. It is also used as a mild stimulant, a toner for the sexual system and as a laxative. Biochemists in the U.S.S.R. report that ginseng can stimulate mental and physical activity, protecting the human organism from severe or prolonged stress and strain. In general, these researchers seem to agree with modern Chinese studies that ginseng does have some tonic effect on the central nervous system.

● **HAZARDS AND LIABILITIES:** Given our Western penchant for overdoing things, it is altogether possible that someone could find a way to overdose on ginseng. Users report that it works best when taken in small quantities, either chewed or boiled in tea, over a prolonged period of time. Although it is not illegal, ginseng usually appears in this country in a variety of preparations. One should keep in mind that you cannot be sure what is in a preparation and in what proportions. In general, the curative properties of the root have probably been overstated. Herbal medicine is practiced by trained practitioners who combine the use of ginseng with other medicines and treatment techniques to gain desired results. An untrained Westerner should not rely on what he has heard about ginseng, or any other exotic substance, in self-treating an infirmity that should receive medical attention.

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GC/MS to confirm whether the "positive" substance involved is morphine (for example), or codeine, or dextromethorphan or whatever. Since the Roche RIA screening process is no more nor less reliable than the Syva EIA process, Syva contended, then it's unfair for the DoD to stipulate that RIA assays should be used exclusively in the military's mass screening programs.

Then the Syva writers proceeded to make a very telling point indeed. Syva's latest-model urinalysis system, the "EMIT-700 d.a.u. series," is completely automated, requiring minimal time or attention from its operators. The Roche Abuscreen RIA systems, by contrast, require the operators to painstakingly perform a complicated and repetitive series of extraction, preparation, and processing steps, during a procedure that requires nearly an hour for each urine-specimen batch to be run. The previous DoD proficiency studies on their urine-testing labs—the studies that showed a horrifying 100-percent error rate at several service labs—showed that the main problem was not so much faulty equipment, as the human tendency of bored and overworked lab techs to commit wholesale errors in operating the gear. (The Abuscreen machines, Syva notes, run up to 600 samples per single batch, giving a bored or incompetent lab tech an opportunity

HIGH HIGHLIGHTS

N

to ruin 600 individuals' careers all at once.) So although the Syva writers had to concede to the GAO that their tests (like Roche's tests) are appallingly indiscriminate, they did make a quite persuasive case for the general superiority, in practice, of their new EMIT-700 series.

This availed Syva nothing, however. Invited by the GAO to rebut Syva's complaint, Roche filed a series of its own exhibits with the Comptroller General: first- and second-hand articles from the academic and popular press that generally spoke ill of Syva's EIA, and well of Roche's RIA. Concluded Roche for the GAO: "The RIA system has so few false positives that they are statistically insignificant" (even when, obviously, some statistically-insignificant individual's job is on the line). "The EMIT technology, on the other hand, has a well-recognized rate of false positive readings," Roche smugly sniped. So after examining the Roche papers, the GAO ruled that Syva had no rightful cause to complain when the DoD demanded strictly "radioimmunoassay" gear for drug screening their service personnel.

In extremis. Syva lashed out with a frantic final document which vigorously attacked the Abuscreen, the authors of the papers submitted to the GAO by Roche, and the Defense Department

itself. This somewhat emotional document implicitly alleges that the DoD, stunned by the number of drug-urine positives seen among service people by the original EMIT assay, may have deftly restructured its testing procedures, before they switched to Abuscreen gear, adopting a process that would guarantee an ever-increasing number of false negative results: of "dirty" urine specimens falsely showing up as "clean," that is. In fact, ever since about the time Mead Compu-Chem switched from the EMIT to the Abuscreen, 18 months ago, all the armed-service branches have been loudly and proudly reporting a conspicuous and steady drop in the rate of perceived drug use among their personnel, and so they truly are seeing a rise in the number of "clean" urine specimens, one way or the other.

Whatever that may have been worth for Syva's case, their attack on the authors of the papers submitted to the GAO by Roche was strictly *ad hominem* political badinage. "The controversy surrounding the reliability of EMIT has been shrouded in misinformation, ignorance of the facts, and an apparent attempt to discredit EMIT and the people that use it. It should also be apparent that much of this effort is in fact an attempt to discredit urine tests for drugs in general, including the DoD

program and RIA. Amazingly, the Comptroller General's decision [against Syva's EMIT] cites an article offered by Roche as evidence for incorrect EMIT results in which the author strongly condemns the military screening programs."

Syva's suggestion that no one can tell the truth and be critical of the military at the same time cut no ice at the General Accounting Office, which is not a branch of the military. Once again the GAO ruled that Syva didn't have a leg to stand on (however so many pots they may have to piss in), and turned them down again. And this time it was final: no defense contract for Syva, ever.

All this explains why Syva made all these public stipulations of fatal basic flaws in their urine-test machines' design. Though these revelations may have been perniciously prejudicial to the company's self interest, they also did no good at all for Syva's competitor, Roche Diagnostics, which would otherwise have galloped off unchallenged with the entire multibillion-dollar drug urinalysis racket in America. In the event that Syva might eventually lose the GAO's decision, leaving Roche in sole possession of that fabulously lucrative Defense Department urinalysis contract, well—if these papers were then to leak out to some snoopy publication or other, in the long run they might make even more trouble for Roche than for Syva, mightn't they? ●

REAGANOPOLIS



MATTHEW FINCH

IPQ

A

● Every day, letters and phone calls pour into the HIGH TIMES offices, asking the same questions about the rising tide of urine testing. HIGH TIMES has published several articles about this ugly phenomenon in the past, and will continue to expose the cruel and unconstitutional practice as more and more horror stories about its abuse come to our attention. In the meantime, as a public service, HIGH TIMES will run a basic primer of information in this space every month.—The Editors

1. What do urine tests actually measure?

● Urine tests are designed to seek out the end-product metabolites of various drugs, tell-tale non-drug compounds which tend to show up in urine at some point after the drug has been ingested. In the case of marijuana, the tests look for a compound called 9-carboxy THC; in the case of cocaine, they look for ecognine.

2. How long does THC stay in the body? Cocaine?

● No one knows how long 9-carboxy THC stays in the body, potentially detectable by urine tests, after marijuana has been smoked. It doesn't really matter; experts agree that if a person smokes just one joint every weekend, there's a possibility that the person might be susceptible to showing "positive" for THC on a urine test given on any day of the following week. For cocaine, the tests are designed to show "positives" for up to three days after the drug has been taken. (The manufacturers estimate five days, but they lie.)

3. Does how much I smoke or ingest affect the test?

● In the case of marijuana, the critical factor is how regularly a person uses the drug; anyone who smokes more often than once or twice per week is susceptible to showing THC "positives," whether they smoke a lot or only a little. For cocaine, however, the size of the dose makes the difference; the smaller the doses, the less likely a "positive" result.

4. How can I spoil the test?

● Standard commercial urine tests—there are only two brands on the market—are typical "quick and dirty" immunoassay devices, necessarily calibrated to examine fluids with an acid-to-base ratio (pH factor) from 3.0 to 4.0. By raising or lowering the pH factor of your sample out of this range, you can simply and undetectably foil the tests. This can be done by dropping six grams or more of ordinary table salt into the urine-collection vial, along with the sample of your urine; alternatively, an even smaller amount of common household ammonia, Drano or whatever, will suffice. The urinalysis machine will simply fail to recognize the sample as urine, and will automatically give it a "drug-free" readout. *Important:* There is nothing a person can take internally, such as vinegar or vitamins or salt, which will foil a urinalysis test.

5. What can I do if I test positive but don't think I should have?

● You can get a lawyer to challenge the test for you in a court of law, by suing whomever may have made you take it. These tests do not fare well in court, several state courts have already banned the use of these tests on prisoners and corrections personnel, and labor-arbitration decisions have uniformly gone against employers who've used them to fire employees. The fact is, these tests are not sufficiently dependable to be used as grounds for taking adverse action against people, under any circumstances at all. If you get into any sort of trouble because of these unreliable devices, you should write NORML—Suite 640, 2000 1/2 St. NW Washington, DC 20009—and NORML can recommend a knowledgeable attorney for you.

6. Are urine tests legal? Who is allowed to administer them?

● There are no laws at all, federal or state, to regulate the use of these urinalysis tests. Even though they're even less reliable than lie-detector tests, and infinitely more invasive, the fact is that they've only been in production since 1980, and people are just now beginning to hear about them. No one gets interested in this urinalysis business until their own job is on the line, and that's why there are no laws governing the use of these gimmicks.

7. Can I be arrested if the test is positive?

● No. These tests are far too unreliable to be used as "evidence" in the courts of law. **Important:** When challenged with these factual data, promoters of drug-urinalysis procedures invariably respond that they're using some sort of "new test," fresh out on the market, which is "100-percent reliable." This is a lie every time. There are only two sorts of urine tests on the market: the EMIT Drugs-of Abuse line from the Syva Company of Palo Alto, California, and the Roche Abusescrreen system, from Roche Diagnostics of Nutley, New Jersey. If a urine-test administrator claims to be using some "new" test, you should challenge that person to give its brand name; that person has just lied to you, and that will be very important in any subsequent lawsuit.

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Since 1969, enough Americans have been arrested for possession of marijuana to empty the states of:



Oregon

(pop. 2,633,149)



Nevada

(pop. 944,038)



Idaho

(pop. 800,493)

And the cities of:

Fresno, CA (pop. 218,202)

Amarillo, TX (pop. 149,230)

Santa Fe, NM (pop. 48,899)

Spokane, WA (pop. 171,300)

Pueblo, CO (pop. 101,686)

Redding, CA (pop. 41,995)

Salt Lake City, UT (pop. 163,033)

Casper, WY (pop. 51,106)

Flagstaff, AZ (pop. 34,641)

And the towns of:

Piercy, Reynolds, Leggett, Rockport, Cummings, Covel, Oklah, Dos Rios, Laytonville, Branscomb, Westport, Longvale, Inglenook, Cleone, Pt. Bragg, Novo, Willits, Casper, Mendocino, Littleriver, Potter Valley, Redwood Valley, Comptche, Albion, Calpella, Navarro, Talmage, Elk, Philo, Manchester, Boonville, Point Arena, Yorkville, Anchor Bay and Gualala, California (pop 66,783)

In fact, almost 6,000,000 people have been arrested for possession of marijuana.

In 1984 alone, over 419,000 marijuana arrests were reported, one every minute and a half.

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National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

SMUGGLER'S JOURNAL

Born beneath the final approach to New York City's LaGuardia Airport, Bradford X saw and heard airplanes throughout his earliest awareness. During preadolescence, he built model planes, faithfully memorizing aircraft silhouettes and engine performance charts. At age 12, he made a solemn pilgrimage to Teterboro, New Jersey, to stand near the Wright Cyclone Engine Factory. His favorite plane? The Boeing B-29, mankind's most efficient killing machine. Someday he hoped to fly her. During the Korean War, he enlisted in the Air Force and attended airplane mechanic school in Texas, followed by permanent duty in Hawaii, where he was assigned to an instrument repair shop. For the next three years he worked on hydraulic automatic pilots. At enlistment's end, he entered the family business, temporarily abandoning the dream of flying. But after 17 years of retail drudgery, he migrated to Miami, where he discovered Miami Dade Junior College, a school offering degrees in airline pilots—flight engineering and aeronautical technology. Finally, the dream was about to come true.

THE MAKING OF AN AERIAL SMUGGLER

BY BRADFORD X



The guy sitting next to me in class was wearing patched jeans and a leather jacket. He was young and blonde and had the look of a grizzly bear who'd just emerged from hibernation. Like me, he was obviously broke. One of his boots was an open mouth with toes wriggling around in place of teeth. His name was Ozzie. He was from California, the son of an airline pilot. Ozzie was working his way through flight school. Ozzie was tables at a local Howard Johnson's. We were both worried about passing the course.

© copyright Bradford X.



According to government regulations, flight students must solve standard in-flight emergencies, such as engine failure and fire, before their first solo flight. They must also master touch-and-go landings, minimum airspeed flights, and rapid smooth-stall recoveries. The stall was giving me most trouble.

An airplane stalls when the lift dynamics of the wings disappear. The result? The plane drops, spins and crashes. Unless, of course, the pilot recognizes the symptoms and recovers. Recovery must be rapid, operating at full power always put me into a panic. I nearly went broke with the expense of extra lessons.

"Everyone is scared of stalling an airplane," said Ozzie. "The only way to conquer that fear is to deliberately spin the plane." Spinning is flying with one wing lifting and the other falling. Ozzie

wanted me to practice spins at night over the ocean, with no outside visual references, trusting only the instrument panel.

It took some time for Ozzie to convince me, but his plan worked. After a few practice sessions, I could actually spin the plane and come out on a preordained heading. Over the next three years, I obtained my private, commercial, instrument and multiengine pilot's licenses, as well as an aviation mechanic's license. The crowning achievement of all this schooling was three hours' flying time in all this school's flight simulator for the Boeing 727 jetliner.

I mailed applications to all the major English-speaking airline companies of the world. It took a while to receive the replies and although several airlines complimented my impressive credentials, no one offered me a job. I wanted to obtain a flight engineer's license for a Boeing 727. Unfortunately, without a job I would have to first hire a flight crew and plane for at least three hours at \$7,000 an hour. Instead, I bought some tools and went to work as an

airplane mechanic at Miami International Airport. Ozzie found a job as a flight instructor.

A strange thing happened while I was working at the airport: strangers began offering me large sums of money to make illegal flights. One person offered me \$30,000 a month for flying contraband. Another said he'd make me a millionaire. Since I assumed it was a con game, I just laughed. But then Ozzie showed up one day carrying a suitcase stuffed with \$35,000. "I just flew 1,200 pounds of marijuana out of Colombia," he explained. "Why don't you come with me next time?"

Having never seen so much money in one place before, I was rendered speechless. "Give me some time to think it over," I said finally.

While I was thinking it over, Ozzie flew back to Colombia and returned with another 1,200 pounds of smoke. His flimsy suitcase now carried \$58,000 in cold cash, money Ozzie stubbornly refused to let out of his sight. For several days he carried it to restaurants, movie theaters and Laundromats. "Do me a favor and babysit the suitcase for a few days?" asked Ozzie. "I have to visit my relatives in Ohio."

I'd never committed a crime, and the thought of "throwing rocks at the penitentiary" did not appeal to me, but the temptation of making vast amounts of money so quickly proved too great to bear. On that day I became Ozzie's co-conspirator. He handed me the key to a nearby motel. "Wait for my call," he said.

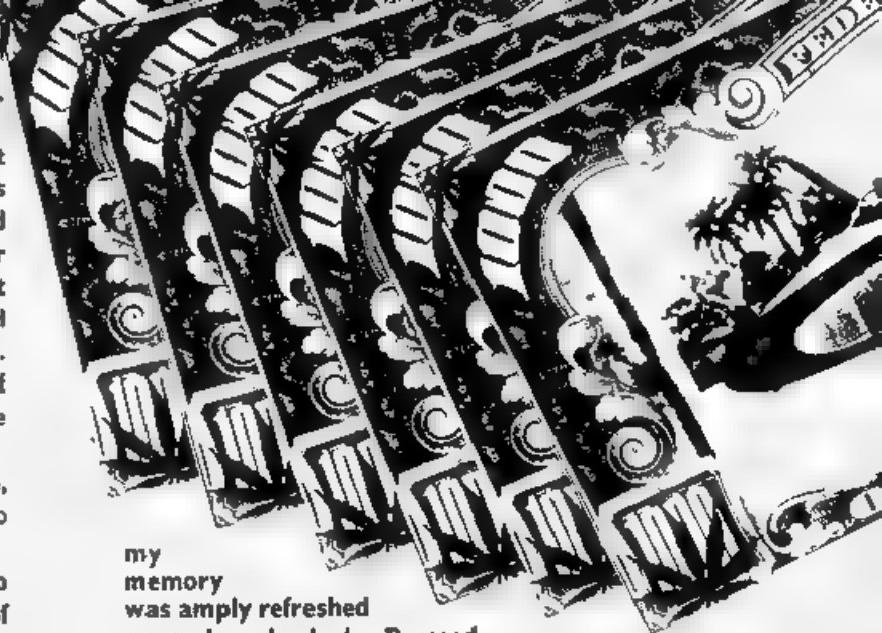
It was a cheap Miami motel and none of the rooms had air conditioning. My nervous anxiety made the room seem even hotter. The first two days passed without a phone call. Finally, on the third day, the phone rang. "Get your tools," said Ozzie. "It's time to go to work."

BINGO! All my brain cells were instantly revived by greed. I pictured myself carrying my very own swollen suitcase—with my very own long-legged blondes on each arm. All I had to do was fly to Colombia with Ozzie and bring back a shitload of marijuana. Within an hour I was practically hunchbacked from carrying all the cash home.

* * *

Later that afternoon, I met Ozzie and his boss, Mr. Robert Madeira, at the Delta ticket counter of the Miami International Airport. Ozzie radiated confidence as he described "the perfect deal." The three of us boarded a flight to Nashville, Tennessee, and while we feasted on pancakes, sausages and coffee, Madeira told us about a factory he owned that made portable cranes. The subject, however, soon turned to smuggling. Madeira appeared very interested in our flying experience. Ozzie and I lied in unison.

After so many years of living in South Florida, I'd completely forgotten the north wind. Unfortunately,

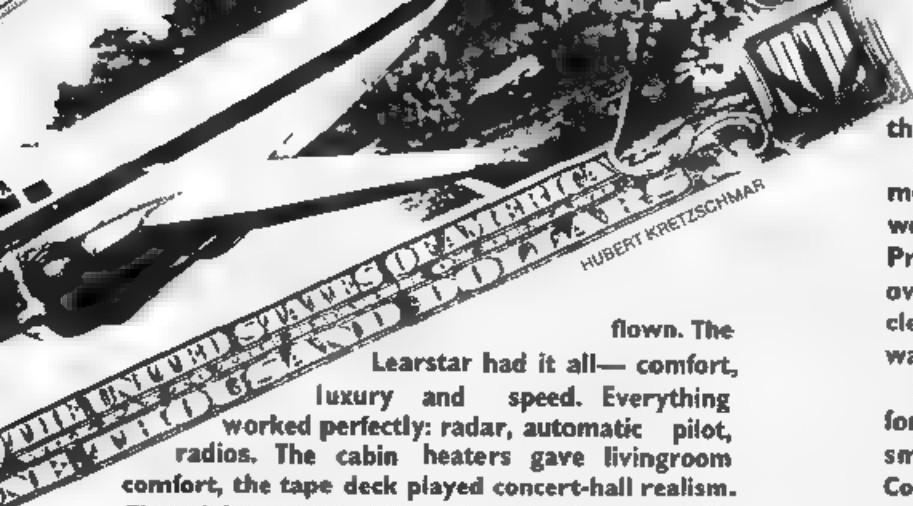


my
memory
was amply refreshed
as we disembarked. Dressed
for Florida sunshine, I found myself strangely
out-of-place in the freezing Tennessee countryside.
Patches of snow clung to the landscape. We piled into
a car, drove 50 miles to a deserted airport and got
our first look at the plane we were supposed to pilot
to South America. Inadvertently, an audible "Wow!"
slipped out as I sighted a freshly painted Learstar, the
Rolls-Royce of dope-smuggling aircraft.

I thought back to the caption I'd read in HIGH TIMES: "The Lodestar is a small, twin-engine airliner built by Lockheed in the 40s. It is the fastest airplane on the flying smuggling list and also has the longest range. Payload is enormous, which makes it very popular among high-volume rollers. It's expensive to operate, but for two tons of contraband on every flight, who cares? An even faster version, designed by Bill Lear in the 50s and called the Learstar, is noisy, rare and tough to fly. But if one has the balls and the necessary flying ability, fly the Learstar."

The tires and brakes were brand new. Not one drop of oil leaked from the powerful engine cowlings. The interior smelled factory-fresh and contained a newly-carpeted lounge, electronic galley, standup liquor bar, card tables, and couches for the comfort of 14 plutocrats. This was no garden-variety, bush-league smuggling plane, but a veritable Mona Lisa, a pristine beauty capable of topping 300 miles an hour while keeping the flight crew in first class comfort.

Before we could make the flight back to Florida, we needed to test the plane with a few touch-and-go landings. Madeira wisely waited inside the hangar while Ozzie and I boarded the Learstar. After a brief preflight inspection, Ozzie flipped the ignition and the twin right Cyclone engines roared to life. "Crosswind components," "meto power settings," "stalling speeds," and "V-1 V-2" may be meaningless phrases to the nonaeronautical, but on the flight deck of an airliner they can measure the margin between life and death. Fortunately, Ozzie and I each had absolute confidence in each other. Up we went, three times in gentle succession in a plane neither of us had ever



flown. The

Learstar had it all—comfort, luxury and speed. Everything worked perfectly: radar, automatic pilot, radios. The cabin heaters gave livingroom comfort, the tape deck played concert-hall realism.

That night we took off for a desolate airport outside Fort Myers, Florida, where we were met by two well-dressed gentlemen: Bobby, a lean, mean redneck who'd organized the trip and supplied most of the front money, and Chester, the connection to South America (who I'd known previously as an aircraft mechanic). Ozzie and I checked into a local motel.

I slept restlessly, my dreams revolving around two pencil points carefully placed on a map: our destination in Colombia and our home strip in Florida. Both dots lay in different worlds and both worlds had to be scrutinized for potential hazards. My personal share for traveling between these two dots was to be \$25,000.

We woke long before dawn and drove to the airport. After a quick breakfast of coffee and sandwiches, everyone shook hands and the three soldiers of fortune—me, Ozzie and Madeira—got into the Learstar.

We flew in darkness at treetop level with reduced power in order to slip underneath the radar protecting the United States coastline. We spoke in whispers, as though someone on the ground might actually hear our voices over the soft murmur of the engines. As we passed the coastline of Bimini Island, Captain Ozzie called for "climb power." I advanced the throttles and the Learstar accelerated upward toward the radio beacon at Great Inagua Island at the other end of the Bahama chain. We quickly reached 15,000 feet. I noticed the black sky was filled with patches of luminous stars and galaxies not visible from the ground. It was as if millions of flashbulbs had exploded and remained lit. I felt I was flying into the eye of God.

Our first problem appeared as we passed over the skies of Haiti. The console lights began blinking and the transponder somehow turned itself on. I checked the switch and it remained in the "off" position. I reached behind me for a screwdriver and began painstakingly removing the two-inch-by-four-inch black box.

"Get me a hammer!" howled Ozzie.

Ozzie grabbed the screwdriver and positioned it on the face of the transponder. With a powerful whack, he impaled the deviant instrument, causing a shower of sparks, followed by tiny yellow flames and a puff of

white smoke. The smoke cleared momentarily and the flight continued as dawn peaked over the horizon.

Several hours later, I beheld the dark, mysterious mountains of Colombia: land of the emerald, the world's finest coffee, and the golden marijuana plant. Precision navigation had placed us on course directly over our jungle destination: a narrow, tree-lined clearing, pockmarked with chuckholes and puddles of water.

Miraculously, the landing was routine. I will never forget my first step on Colombian soil. The hot air smelled of campfire smoke and decaying vegetation. Coconut palm trees and giant cactus plants surrounded the hand-hewn clearing. The unarmed campesino workers began filling the airplane fuel tanks from 50-gallon drums. Our effusive host, who appeared immediately, seemed to have stepped right out of "El Rancho Grande." "Señor Mauricio," he said gently taking my hand. "Come and inspect the marijuana."

* * *

The love of gold has been a trait of mankind since antiquity. Gold's unmistakable enchanting softness has always stirred a primal human greed. A rich man plays with his gold, caressing it like a satyr fondling a virgin's breast. He adorns himself with it on very special occasions and jealously guards his beloved metal. The quest for gold has always played a colorful role in man's history. And it was in the Colombian jungle, when I first saw 55 bales of golden yellow leaves, that I experienced the joyful vertigo Edmond Dantes must have felt when he first caught sight of the treasure of Monte Cristo.

The burlap-wrapped bales were between one and two feet long and weighed 60 to 75 pounds each. To make room for their massive bulk, Ozzie and Madeira reluctantly stripped the Learstar's beautiful interior. Both couches, the bar, the cardtables, six lounge chairs and, yes, even the kitchen sink, were unceremoniously tossed into the jungle. Simultaneously, the campesinos hoisted bale after bale aboard. The entire operation took 30 minutes.

A walk-around inspection of the Learstar showed shock absorbers compressed and tires bulging under the load. Aside from a narrow crawl space, marijuana filled the craft, including the bathroom, the closets and a corner once occupied by an electric galley. Never had I seen so much dope confined to such a small space. The hot, packed cabin seethed with the sharp, savory, full-flavored pungency of hemp.

After quick goodbyes all around, the engines were started. Since there was no room in the cabin, Madeira sat in the flight engineer's seat



between the pilot and first officer. Full load, full fuel, hot day, and a primitive, pockmarked airfield. Worst conditions all around. "I'll see you all in hell," cracked Ozzie as he commanded maximum power.

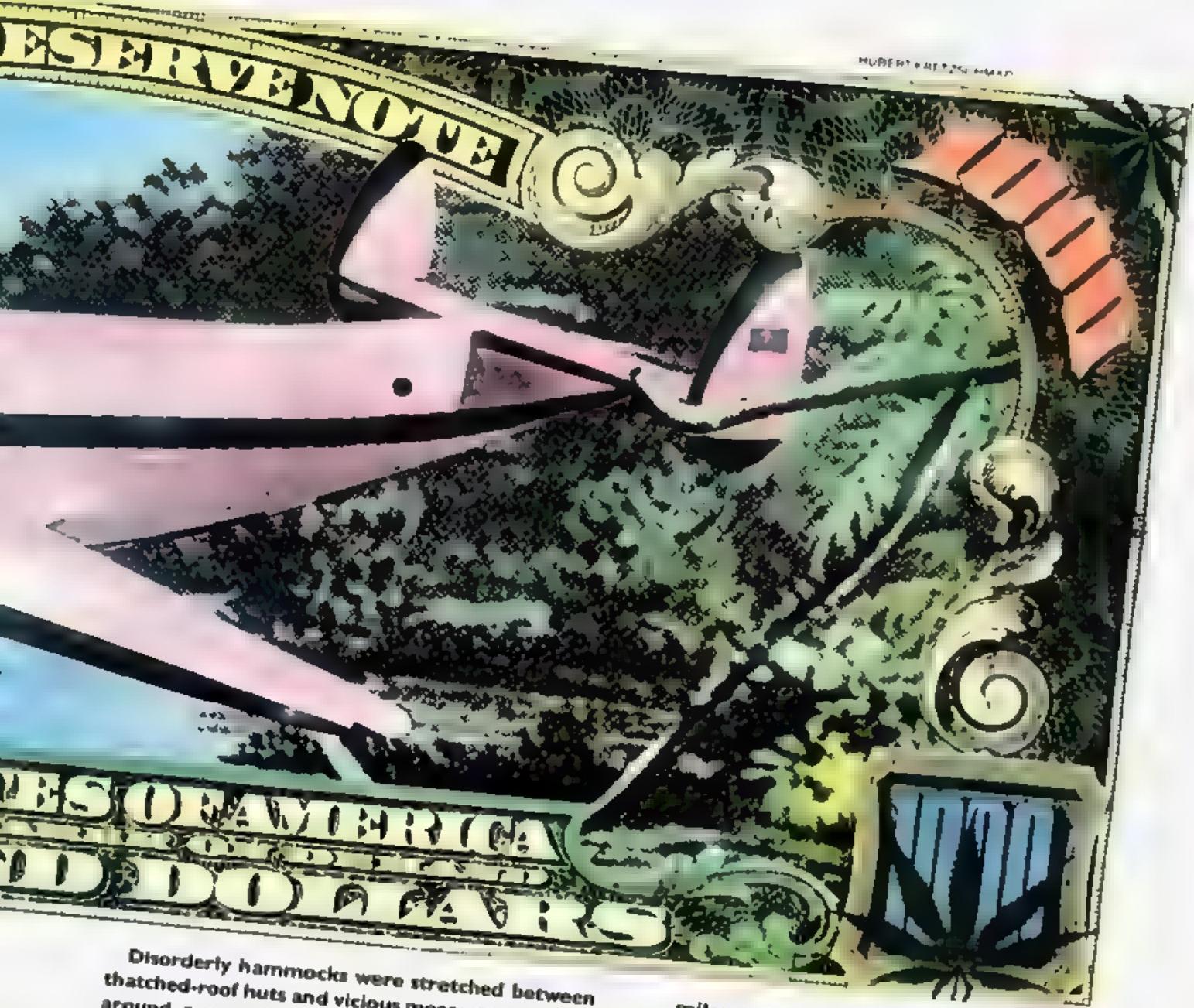
The engines roared and the Learstar rolled half-heartedly down the dirt runway. A bounce from the first chuckhole hammered the poor, overladen aircraft. As our groundspeed increased, we ran through a shallow ditch. We bounced high in the air and landed with a sledgehammer wallop. Just prior to attaining flying speed, a third pothole launched us airborne again. Madeira's reaction was to grab the landing gear handle and use it for a handhold, inadvertently releasing the landing gear down locks. On the rebound, the landing gear collapsed.

Accompanied by the shriek of tortured metal and breaking glass, the once beautiful Learstar slammed into the runway. Like a giant,

reptile, we slid belly-up at eighty miles an hour toward a grove of trees. Agonizing milliseconds passed as the aerodynamic contours grated into a twisting spasm. The spinning propellers became arthritic, motionless in sculptured misery. Over the sounds of this wreckage, our captain bellowed his final order. "That's it!" screamed Ozzie. "We bought it! Get the fuck out!"

It took a lifetime for that bellyslide to stop. A hushed stillness prevailed as the cabin filled with acrid, black smoke. The plane was on fire.

"All that gasoline!" screamed Ozzie. "She's gonna blow!" I was in shock and could think of nothing but the dope. We'd come this far...must save the pot. I lunged for a fire extinguisher. Ozzie grabbed me and threw me to the floor. "Get out!" he said. "There's plenty of fucking pot in Colonial!" My sanity returned and we maulled our way out of the plane.



Disorderly hammocks were stretched between thatched-roof huts and vicious mosquitoes buzzed around a post-Stone Age village. Women, children, dogs, and some mean-looking cows clustered around a smoky campfire while an ancient Indian woman handed me a cup of Colombian coffee. It was strangely delicious. I sipped and looked back at the boiling wreckage of a once-beautiful aircraft. Everything was gone: the plane, the dope, the dreams of grandeur. A cloud of billowing smoke rose higher and higher.

Señor immediately made it clear we had to book. "The military will see the smoke and investigate," he explained. He guaranteed us exit visas and an airline flight back to Miami. We piled into a jeep and the Don personally drove us 200

miles to the Barranquilla Airport. The trip was picturesque, rugged and rather uncomfortable. We were in no mood to look at the countryside. The Don waited with us for the jet to Miami. We exchanged telephone numbers and vowed to see each other again soon.

There was only one subject that interested Ozzie and me on the flight: our imminent return to Colombia. We had our own contacts now and Ozzie said he had friends in California who could back us for the next trip. Midway home, I realized for the next several years I was going to commit myself wholeheartedly to the ancient profession of smuggling. ●

Today I began to understand ONE of the IMMUTABLE truths with regard to my own EXISTENCE

ENCOURAGING:

Today I discovered that I AM not a being surrounded by

WALLS and barriers,.. but part of a CONTINUUM and

WITH all things, those living and even those INANIMATE.

I feel a new surge for life for living now now
for becoming part of everything around me!

I WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD AND I KNOW I CAN DO IT!!!

I'm like a NEW born Baby taking his first STEPS

I was blind before to my inner-self, my TRUE desires
my own special

POWER to the UNIVERSE ITSELF.

SO many people live lives of pointless desperation, unable to appreciate that life
is to be LIVED for TODAY... in every FLOWER, every CLOUD, in a smile.

I also realized today that LINDA AND I HAVE TO BREAK UP.

I realize now that her lack LACK of IMAGINATION has been
holding me back. She's been trying to hold me into someone

will NEVER be. She's too SOMBRE too MATERIALISTIC, too STRAIGHT
WRONG, and I learned that today.

I learned that life is an ADVENTURE for people with COURAGE.

I guess I should back up for a minute here.. I don't know really
where to start...

I guess everything began when I dropped that ACID MIKE gave me
for my birthday. When I got off, I decided to take a bath and I was

watching the H₂O H₂O WATER.... just thinking about how beautiful
it looked, how I've NEVER really noticed how beautiful BATHWATER
looked before... when out of nowhere I heard this INCREDIBLE EXAMPLE IS

MUSIC - like CHIMES. Eventually, I realized it was the front DOOR BELL

and I thought I better go answer it, you never know... I stood up and realized I was

wet and naked. And then I thought & SO WHAT?
what difference does it make really in the GRAND SCHEME of things?

So I went to the door and it was this girl from down the street, who I had never met before. I invited her in, and this is the really STRANGE part. SHE CAME IN.

So we were in my parents' living room and I'm naked and she is beautiful. So I make some tea. It took around an hour to do it. Then we just sat and talked about everything ☺ and I realized that I have this incredible POWER over people. Almost MESSIANIC. She sat there and listened with these big beautiful open eyes ☺. And then I kissed her and we were KISSING, kissing and I had this erection and she looked at it and suddenly she said she had to leave and I said why?

And then we met each other's eyes for a long loooong time and she said she realized I was a very special person and she didn't want to ruin a special moment with something as common as sex. And I understood deep down what she meant. We were connecting in a much deeper way. I understood it was all too MUCH for right now. And she left.

I started to think that I must be the kind of man WOMEN don't find IRRESISTABLE, that I HAVE SPECIAL PREDATORS others don't have, and that I can't waste them. I CAN'T LET MYSELF BE HINDERED. I MUST CONNECT WITH EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD that wants me.

So after she left, I just lay on the floor, naked, tripping and I could feel the power moving thru me, as if the whole WORLD lay under me, just to hold me UP. I was literally on TOP of the WORLD, I FELT LIKE GOD.

That was around five hours ago and I'm pretty straight now. After I write this down, I'm calling Linda and telling her it's over between us. Then I'm going to wait for my parents to come home and tell them I'm dropping out of B.U. There's really no point to a liberal arts degree now with all the potential that is within me. I've decided to take my savings (\$300) and move to Portland, Oregon for a while. I think that will be a good place to begin.

SHANTI,
Until tomorrow,

Eric Bazzica

A black and white photograph of a woman sitting on a log, holding a fish she has caught. She is wearing a patterned dress and a necklace. The background is a dense forest.

A selected guide to the low-budget 1930 movies of the '40s by Roger Ebert

"TONIGHT you will taste the
You have invited into your **PRIVATE
PARTY**. You will experience
every thrill, every kick of a psycho-
Noid, **disco**, **Rock**, **Beat**,
miks... **Sicknicks**... and **ACID
HEADS**— their bestiality, their
agonies, and their **BIZARRE
SENSUALITIES**... You will be
invited into their indecent
dreams and frenzied fan-
tasies!"

Sort of what's the opposite, doesn't it? The copy was written for a classic 1966 exploitation film, **THE MIND BENDER GENERATION**. Most viewers did not realize, however, that the drug cult really made its bones in about the year earlier in **PSYCHOTIC**, Vincent Price thriller in which the horrormeister employs the mind-bending drug to scare his wife to death in order to remove a

bug-like parasite from her spine.

...and the last film of the year is probably the
EVIL MUSURE, which hit the screen
in 1938, but in the hippie ghetto of
mid-Akbar, the film zeroed on the an-
ged lone hero of the Franklin Flan-

Acid and bellbottoms were next dropped into the ACID RIVER. In 1960 alone that opened with scores of dried-out watercourses—perforated, fully cracked, violet desperation—typical, moreover, of a powerfully flooding the base of one of the Rockies and, the same group of option questers gobble down enough silicon to collectively halocinate a 30-foot mound of pure LSC in the Mohave Desert. In point of its ground-cover rank, the ACID RIVER should not be confused with the HOGGARD B.C. (the first example is mentioned in a growing genetic system's early communication). By 1967, the media prophets of doom were predicting that food supplies will dwindle and overexploited reservoirs were in imminent danger of being depleted by acid-washed rivers. The remaining option is global

all people by law. Then
most have been made to pay
more than they can afford.

**FOR THE
ADULT MINDED**

...and the second report of a new and revealing aspect of the Mexican revolution, based on Martínez's 30-year-old sources. **STRANGENOMIES** (1999) is a book of 100 short essays on Mexican history from 1910 to 1940 by Martínez himself, which he has now collected and published under the title **SUPERSTRANGENOMIES**. The book is divided into four parts: **THE DRUG WAR**, **THE HISTORY OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION**, **THE MEXICAN EMPIRE**, and **THE MEXICAN COLD WAR**. In **THE DRUG WAR**, Martínez discusses the drug war in Mexico as it was in 1945, and reported in his *Revista de Historia Mexicana* (1945-1946). In **THE MEXICAN COLD WAR**, Martínez discusses the CIA's secret history of the Mexican Revolution, and its influence on the Mexican government. In **THE HISTORY OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION**, Martínez discusses the drug culture of the revolution, the importance of the Apocho, the Conchita, and the released of the Apocho. According to Martínez, the Apocho was one of the most important figures in the Mexican Revolution.

In the late 80s, the media were given the regularly assured that LSD would turn the consumers into genocidal, racing nihilists. This angle was exploited in the horror-porn-acid reel MANTIS IN AGILE in 80s rendering of the old fable and Hyde's plain MANTIS details the weird nightmarish Hitler with triple stripes around each index-finger.

LISTEN TO THE SOUND OF LOVE
FEEL PURPLE
TASTE GREEN

TOUCH
THE
SCREAM
THAT
CRAWLS
UP THE
WALL!

JAMES H. NICHOLSON AND
SAMUEL Z. ARKOFF
PRESENT

PETER FONDA
SUSAN STRASBERG
STARRING IN ROGER CORMAN'S Production of

"THE PURP"

IN PSYCHEDELIC
COLOR

ALSO STARRING

BRUCE DENNIS AND SALLI
DERN · HOPPER · SACHSE

WRITTEN BY

JACK NICHOLSON · ROGER CORMAN

PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY

RECOMMENDED FOR MATURE AUDIENCES

ORIGINAL SOUND TRACK RECORDING ON TOWER RECORDS

AN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL PICTURE



PERSONAL!

TONIGHT-You
are invited to
enter a wanton
world of weird
and frenzied
fantasies!



HALUCINATION GENERATION

Low-budget acid flicks quickly became a staple at mosquito-infested drive-ins, where local yahoos arrived in eight-cylinder asskicking machines and budgeted their Buds through a barrage of such acid-soaked garbage as *ALICE IN ACID-LAND*, *PSYCHEDELIC SEX KICKS*, and *DEPRAVED*. Of the latter, Morton observes that shoestring director Andy Milligan managed to include practically every sexual activity in the film, climaxing with a girl high on LSD leaping from a window—a fairly common fate for hippie ingenues who dared experiment with the mind-blowing chemical.

Other acid cheapies from the Golden Age include: *UNHOLY MATRIMONY*, *WANDA*, *THE SADISTIC HYPNOTIST*, *THE DEAN'S WIFE*, *PSYCH-OUT*, *SATAN'S SADISTS*, and *BEYOND THE VALLEY OF THE DOLLS*. These films frequently shared the marquee with low-budget movies

about other drugs like *MARY JANE*, 1967's answer to *REEFER MADNESS*. The film starred fading teen idol Fabian as a do-gooder attempting to keep curious high-schoolers away from herbal temptation. Trashier still was *SYNANON*, which hopelessly miscast Chuck Connors and Ossie Davis as heroin addicts struggling to kick the junk habit.

In late 1967, exploitation film pioneer Roger Corman took the psychedelic cinema to the masses with the first widely released acid epic, *THE TRIP*. Written by Jack Nicholson, *THE TRIP* starred Peter Fonda as an advertising executive who scores a hefty dose of micrograms from his groovy pal Dennis Hopper. The balance of the film details Fonda's stoned-out visionary experiences. Michael Weldon, author of *THE PSYCHOTRONIC ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FILM*, believes *THE TRIP* is the number-one attitude flick of the 60s. He particularly enjoys the scene in the laundry room "in which Fonda sits on the floor making cosmic comments."

LEFT

- Bruce Dern as a tripped-out messiah in *Psych-Out*, a 1968 release produced by Dick Clark.

BELOW

- Peter Fonda loosens his collar after dropping acid in Roger Corman's *The Trip*. Love-beaded Dennis Hopper looks on in approval.

The selling point of *THE TRIP* was not zen enlightenment, however, but inspired cinematography and special effects. "Corman admitted to having experimented with LSD before making the film," says Weldon. Could be. But the inspiration for the retina-shattering effects used in *THE TRIP* probably stem more from Dali and Disney than Kesey and Leary. After the film's success, acid film producers opened their wallets for even greater special effects budgets and the tripping experience became even more identified with richly kaleidoscopic colors. Morton is quick to point out that the most popular acid film of the late 60s wasn't even about acid—it was *2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY*. (It's worth noting that although *HALLUCINATION GENERATION* was filmed in black and white, the film's high-altitude sequences contained blinding, multicolored, Pop-art vortexes.)

LSD movies, like the initial market for LSD itself, vanished in the early 70s. "Charlie Manson took all the fun out of it," laments Morton, who also speculates the psychedelic comeback of the 80s will create an audience for new movies about an old but faithful chemical. This is a staggering concept. The special effects revolution generated by films such as *STAR WARS*, *CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND*, *ALIEN*, and others, opens the door to a brain-blowing Acid Film Renaissance. How about a sequel to *THE TRIP* filmed with such high-tech effects that the audience gets stoned just looking at the screen?! Now there's an experience well worth waiting for! In fact, chemical-induced hallucinations have played a major role in such recent films as *ALTERED STATES* and *THE EMERALD FOREST*.



'Dream Drug' Scandal Rocks University

College Professor Admits Use of 'Dream Drugs'

The use of hallucinogenic drugs



Teen-Age 'Acid Heads' in Local High Schools

'EXPERIMENTS' ENCOURAGE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION CLAIMED BY USERS OF LSD

HOSPITAL REPORTS 'PILL SCANDAL' IN LOCAL SCHOOLS

Wide-spread use of drugs college and high school revealed

Girl Dies From LSD Overdose
Sorority Party

CHICAGO — Authorities are investigating the death of a young woman

TOP

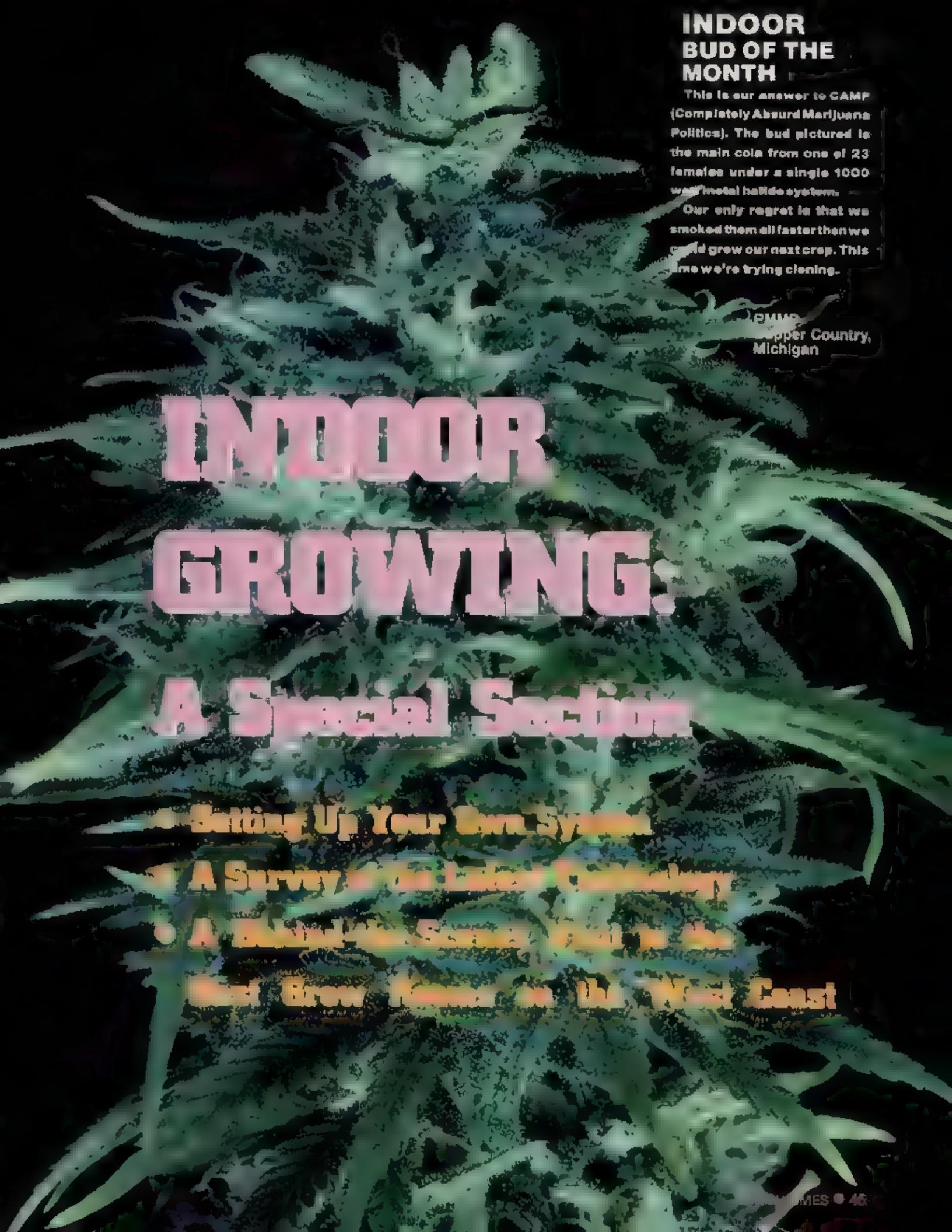
- Students and faculty members of an inner city high school stare in disdain at the marijuana-pushing cutie in *Mary Jane*, one of the few drugs movies of the 60s that did not involve LSD.

MIDDLE

- Guru George Montgomery teaches the finer points of tripping to "beatnik" followers in *Hallucination Generation*.

On the schlock front, *INVASION OF THE GIRL SNATCHERS* represents the first low-budget acid flick to appear in years. It opened in 1985. Like *THE TINGLER*, *INVASION* is really a monster movie, but if acid flicks are going to make a serious comeback, many may have to sneak back into the theaters disguised as horror pics. Nevertheless, judging by *INVASION*'s promo hype ("teenage acid heads battle freaked out zombies!"), the future looks kaleidoscopically bright! ●





INDOOR BUD OF THE MONTH

This is our answer to CAMP (Completely Absurd Marijuana Politics). The bud pictured is the main cola from one of 23 females under a single 1000-watt/metal halide system.

Our only regret is that we smoked them all faster than we could grow our next crop. This time we're trying cloning.

PMMD
Upper Country,
Michigan

INDOOR GROWING

By Special Section

Bringing Up Your Own System

A Survey of Indoor Growing

From the West Coast to the East

From the Midwest to the South

From the North to the South

From the East Coast to the West

From the East Coast



SOME BIG WELL LIGHTED PLACES

by K.

(Author of *The Smoker's Handbook*)

well-tended cannabis can be seen from
several miles away at night and storm.

So the cultivators of cannabis always
choose as farmers they need sunshine
and as outlaws they need seclusion. But
where they find sunshine there is no
seclusion and where there is seclusion
there is no sunshine.

That cultivators have found the means
to solve their dilemma is evidenced by
recent crop reports. The National Organization
for the Reform of Marijuana Law (NORM) projected that in 1985, the
U.S. would return marijuana to the nation.
Farmers throughout the country, including
corn. This projection, though necessarily
based on some rather loose calculation,
poses an interesting question: how do
the cultivators resolve their dilemma and
grow cannabis in spite of big government's
best efforts to stop them?

By practicing a little deception
promising not to tell anyone in particular
that they are growing cannabis.

A GROW AMERICAN

SPECIAL

EDITED BY

ED ROSENTHAL

THE SEATTLE CONNECTION

In the late 1970s word reached the San Francisco Pot Club of "indicas" from the Pacific Northwest. When the light from Seattle reached the Bay Area, it was reflected nearly twice the price being paid for indica varieties grown on California's sunny slopes.

The indica/mystery plants were called "Afghan." The indicas, like Afghans, have been cultivated for thousands of years for their chemical tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Those millennia of cultural selection have produced a cannabis genotype with an extremely high percentage of THC. The sativas, on the other hand, have traditionally been cultivated for hemp fiber and consequently contain a smaller percentage of THC. Since today's consumers demand THC from their cannabis, it stands to reason that cultivators can double their price by growing a sativa variety with twice as much THC.

The mystery was in the location. How could anyone grow plants from the high dry deserts of Afghanistan in the rain-drenched forests of the Pacific Northwest? Furthermore, how could they grow enough to supply the Bay Area?

I began to wonder if the big breakthrough had occurred. Something akin to parallel development had to happen. So after collecting a couple of cases of packed mylar bags, notebooks and cameras, I hit the road to Interstate 5.

I met the "Preacher" in the office of a local publisher. After a brief introduction, we beat room. The Preacher began his sermon. Marijuana is a sacrament. He said. "If you smoke marijuana in your church, if people would learn to smoke more sacrament the world would be a much better place." And, if the price of admission to the second garden in his sermon, I would sit and listen.

The Preacher had surprising news. That night several of his assistants picked me up at the hotel that evening. A tour of the churches would begin with a SuperSonics game at Seattle's Kingdome. We soon found ourselves sitting high up in the press section with refreshments in hand.

INDICA VARIETIES

The garage had been converted into a sunny slope and contained about thirty indica/sativa hybrids.



INDICA VARIETIES

Walls were covered with foil-lined insulation which reflected the halides light onto the hungry plants.



Kingdome

Seattle's Kingdome is a prime example of modern sports architecture. An enclosed multipurpose stadium, it features a small mountain of solid granite take about a million pounds of TNT and hollow out level the floor. Install seats up the sides, and there you have in Kingdome. And though cold, dark and dank, the Kingdome enables fans to enjoy sports right through some of the longest nights in the USA.

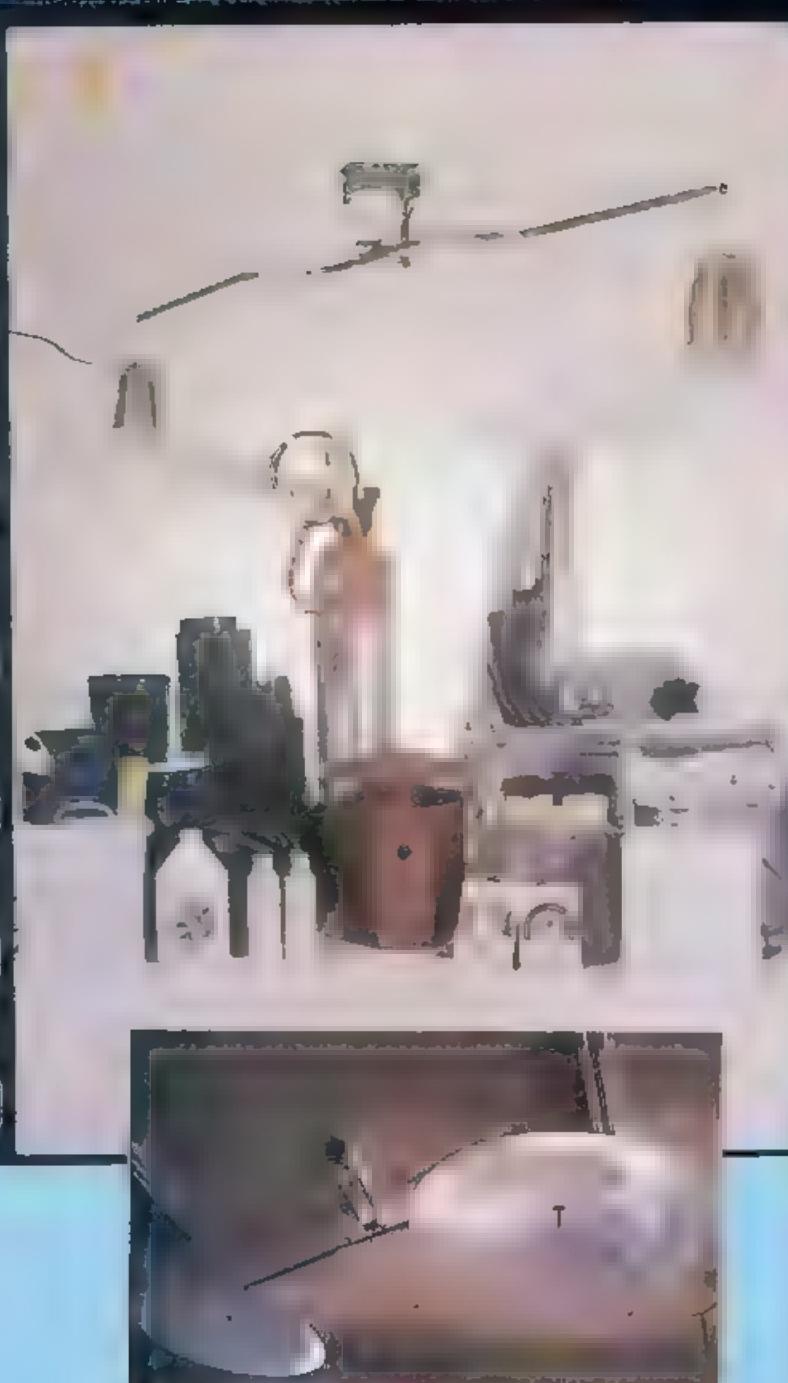
"Why do you suppose we brought you here?" the Preacher asked. When I shrugged, he squinted up into the light and said, "Check out the lamps! They are the real miracle in this stadium. That was enough."

Concerts would sustain many hours, lighting over striking nights in the dark. One of those lights is a 1000-watt metal halide lamp, so they use it to reflect and generate a lot of lumens.

Now as you probably know, the Preacher continued, the big money in professional sports comes from television revenue. And television cameras are calibrated for sunshine. So, for a broadcast to be of good quality, the lighting must closely match the frequency of sunlight. Those metal halides were designed to do that. People sitting at home will never know how hard we worked.

continued on page 52

Setting Up Your Own Indoor Gardening System



The Whirlygig is the original two-lamp rotary light balancer. This product moves the lamps back and forth over the garden delivering even light coverage. Supplied by Emerald City Halide, The Whirlygig guarantees no hotspots and no shady spots.

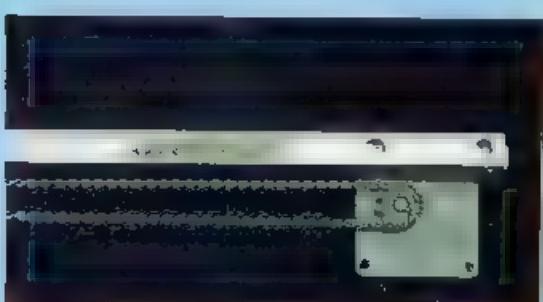
Five years ago, the indoor gardening industry was similar to a fresh cutting: full of life, yet susceptible to the slightest affliction. Today, the indoor stores that serve prosperous indoor growers have grown firm, far reaching roots that supply an ever increasing number of green collar workers. Like rooted clones, the indoor garden industry has blossomed into a multi-million dollar sector of the economy.

Over 30 stores now offer mail order indoor garden supplies including metal halide and High Pressure (HP) sodium lamps. Many of these stores are "full service" grow stores that specialize in a complete assortment of difficult-to-find equipment.

A few unfortunate gardeners have searched large wholesale horticultural supply outlets for halide and HP sodium lamps and other products cited in this article. They found that the items cost 30-50% more, and often the lamp or components were put on back order. A crop could have been grown in the time it takes for the supplies to arrive. Large wholesalers are not set up to sell one or two lamps at a time to the indoor gardener.

To help indoor growers, we have put together an overview of some of the most innovative indoor garden products available today. For a complete explanation of the products outlined, give the retailers a call, or write them for a catalog (see list, p. 59).

The Sun Circle by **Sun Circle Inc.**, moves one or two lamps in a complete 360 degree circle. Plants get more even distribution of intense light from a single lamp, and complete coverage from the full spectrum of two lamps. The unique clutch in this industrial strength light balancer makes it easy to push out of the way when maintaining the garden below. The Sun Circle is attached to a clear 1000-watt super metal halide and a 1000-watt HP sodium lamp manufactured and distributed by Applied Hydroponics. Both lamps offer adjustable 45° reflective hoods covered with electro-white for brilliant reflection. The ballasts' (both ends of the front row dual-wall construction allows them to operate cool and quiet). The **Hydrofarm Quad** hydroponic system, also by Applied Hydroponics (gray containers behind ballast on right), is one of the oldest and most dependable on the market. More indoor growers have used the Hydrofarm than any other hydroponic system with phenomenal results! The system is complete; all you add are the seeds. Keep the air fresh and pure with a negative ion generator (located on the left on top of the ballast). Supplied by **Applied Hydroponics**, this scientific marvel rids the air of skunk odors as well as pollen and fungus spores.



The Solar Shuttle, manufactured by **Aqua Culture, Inc.**, moves one lamp over the garden in a straight line. This accomplished chain and track design yields years of trouble free use.

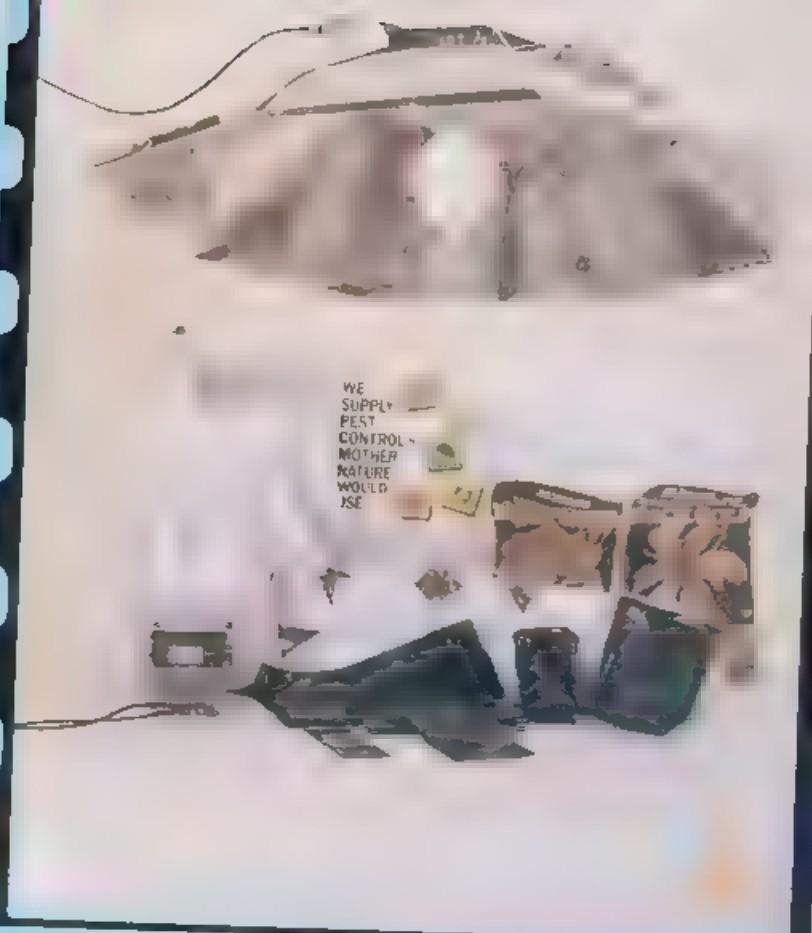
Light Manufacturing produces the expandable **Living System** hydroponic system in the back row on the left. Black, two-gallon containers are attached to a central reservoir or "heart" and individual plants are grown in each container. Ph Lower supplied by **Suncor** decreases pH quickly and easily. **Dyna-Gro** manufactures the gallon of liquid hydroponic fertilizer in the front row. This liquid fertilizer is one of the most popular available.

Pyrethrum, the active ingredient in the two white aerosol cans in the front row, is the natural insecticide most growers choose for spider mite extermination. This product is difficult to find at many retail stores but Lance from **Homegrown Halide** informs me that they have a large supply of the aerosol spray.

The Gasser, available from **Superior Growers Supply**, meters a continuous flow of CO₂ into a grow room. The CO₂ is stored in one of Superior's lightweight non-corrosive cylinders that is 40% lighter than steel cylinders. **Green Air Products** manufactures and economically supplies the red CO₂ generator in the front row. This generator efficiently produces enough CO₂ for a four or five light grow room.

The reflective mylar in the back row, supplied by **Evergreen Halide**, provides one of the most reflective surfaces for grow room walls. Scissors, duct tape and a staple gun are all you need to "mirror out" a room.

This clear 400-watt super metal halide is manufactured by **Diamond Lights**. The inside of the 45" hood is covered with super reflective white, textured Alzeek. An in-line plug between the ballast and the lamp makes lamp set up a snap. A handle on the ballast (front row on left) facilitates portability.



The **Hydro Single** hydroponic system (gray containers in front row also manufactured by **Diamond Lights**) makes an excellent companion to the 400-watt halide lamp. The unit is fully equipped and ready to plant.

Gardening books are found on the shelf at many stores. However, with paraphernalia laws permeating nearly all of the states specific growing information is difficult to find. A few noteworthy titles on indoor growing are **New to Grow The Finest Marijuana Indoors** by Murphy Stevens **Marijuana Grower's Handbook** by Ed Rosenthal, **Indoor Marijuana Horticulture** by Jorge Cervantes, **HIGH TIMES** and **Sinsemilla Tips**. The books provide a firm background on indoor growing, while the magazines keep the informed grower updated on new developments. These titles, and more, are available through the **HIGH TIMES Bookstore**.

The big blue barrel accompanied by several five-gallon buckets is the **Growmatic 2** hydroponic system distributed by **Salem Halide**. This expandable system features electronic moisture probes and digital controls. The camouflage around the bucket (from **Domestic Growers Supply**) is normally used outdoors to camouflage containers. This covering is used by ex-outdoor growers to remind them of the fun they used to have sneaking around outdoors trying to hide their garden before it was spotted and ripped off.

We flipped over the **Skunk Buster**, or did the Skunk Buster flip over us? It is in the front row with a squirrel cage fan on top. Manufactured by the **Indoor Gardener** of Spokane Washington, its activated charcoal eats odors as the smelly air is transformed into a fresh summer breeze inside the device.

EcoGrew (foreground) by **Eco Enterprises** is an all natural fertilizer perfect for hydroponics or soil. It is one of the oldest and most revered brands on the market. Four super growth formulas are available to nurture your garden through all stages of life with unparalleled growth.

continued on page 58





A dark, atmospheric photograph of a room. In the center-left, a painting hangs on a wall. To the right, a lamp sits on a stand, casting a glow. The overall mood is mysterious and moody.

INSIDE THE GREAT INDOORS

continued from page 47

game is being played in this big dark cave because the lighting is so much like sunshine."

THE NINE-LIGHT GARDEN

After the game we headed toward the Olympic Peninsula where I was promised we would visit a commercial-sized grow room. The Olympic Mountains receive up to 150 inches of rainfall per year. We drove for a long time with windshield wipers slapping back and forth.

"Funny thing about all this rain," the Preacher remarked. "There's so much of it that we can't grow our sacrament outdoors like the growers in California. Yet there is so much falling water that we have an abundant and cheap source of electricity. So our clouds really do have a silver lining."

Finally somewhere deep in the night,

I tried to count plants, but they were so thick I couldn't see the entire forest.

We pulled into a gravel driveway and got out to stretch our legs. The clouds had parted to reveal the twinkle of stars. It was cold, the green grass crunching beneath our feet as we walked around a modest suburban home toward a detached two-car garage. The Preacher opened a door and we entered a room filled with lawnmowers, tools, landscaping implements and the other paraphernalia typically associated with the average American dream. But after closing and locking the outside door, the Preacher removed a pocket knife and handing it over he said, "I'll go first." He then turned and said, "Are you ready?"

"Yes," I replied. He swung the door open to Afghanistan at high noon.

My eyes accustomed to the soft twinkling of starlight revolted at the flood of light which came pouring forth. The grow-room had been lined in sheetrock and painted white. Eight 1000-watt halide lamps like those which illuminated the King-Cone were shining over a dense stand of mature sweet smelling sinsemilla. The room vibrated with the lights' buzzing beatles.

"They are an *indica sativa hybrid*," the Preacher said, pulling the top of a plant down to his nose. "And they are almost ready for harvest."

I tried to count plants but they were so thick I couldn't see the entire forest. How many plants do you have in here? I asked.

The resident grower, an administrator with a local city government, replied, "There are about thirty plants. We grow two crops per year and hope for a yield of a half pound per plant."

"But you have to use a propagation



light to get two good harvests per year," added the Preacher. "We have another halide out in a shed that we use for starting seeds and making cuttings. Then, when we harvest this crop, we have another already started and ready to grow out."

"You have spring out in the shed and autumn in here. How do you regulate the growing seasons?" I asked.

"The most important element in controlling growth is the photoperiod," the administrator answered. "And controlling the photoperiod of these halides is really easy with automatic timers. We run the lights here in the grow-room for twelve hours a day to initiate flowering. We run the propagation light eighteen hours a day to initiate vegetative growth."

"How much electricity do you use?" I asked.

"Follow me," said the administrator. We walked back outside into the cold and dark and headed toward the house. He stopped at the side of the house and shined a light on the electricity meter. I glanced at the meter and saw it spinning with the enthusiasm of a child's toy top. "Each of those lights burns about as much electricity as two twenty-one inch color televisions. That's a lot of juice."

"Doesn't somebody wonder about all of that electricity?" I asked.

"We run the lights at night so the meter-reader won't see the meter spinning so wildly," the administrator replied. "And we are going to install an electric pottery kiln for some camouflage. But there aren't many people running this many lights, so the authorities aren't really watching closely, we hope!"

The administrator and I hustled back into the warmth of the grow-room, where the Preacher had decided it was time for a small harvest. "We do about three harvests for each crop," he said. "First we take the top 'Colas because they are next to the lights and more developed. Then in another week or so we harvest the rest of the colas from the top half of the plant. Then we harvest what's left on the bottom half of the plant. This technique allows each flowering node access to light and ensures maximum production of flowers."

I shot photographs as they snipped their way from plant to plant. "What is the biggest problem you had to overcome to grow indoors?" I asked.

"Our biggest problem at this location was all the moisture," the Preacher answered. "We started with a pure Afghan *indica*, but when the buds got big

and tightly packed they started melting away with botrytis. We called it 'The Great Bud Rot.' So we crossed the *indica* with a *sativa* from Colombia that had a good resistance to botrytis. Now we have a strain with a high THC content and a resistance to ro-

On the way back into town I asked the Preacher if there were any real big grow-rooms. "You know, ones with a hundred lights?"

"None that I know," he replied. "The logistics of keeping something like that secret would be nearly impossible. So if I did know of one, I wouldn't breathe a word about it." ~~But I do know of one real Afghani operation and the growers stay silent. They're crack~~

THE TWELVE-LIGHT GARDEN

Jack and Jill were professionals in their craft. They were surprised by moving their operation from Seattle to location in the back of a U-Haul truck. They can change houses and identities in less than one week," the Preacher said.

Like deer in hunting season, Jack and Jill were not easily approached. It took many phone calls to set up a meeting and a great deal of talking to gain their confidence. Finally, their professional pride opened the door and I went in for a visit.

They were, at the time, located in an older house somewhere in Seattle's University District. Their neighbors were suspicious; when I arrived late in the afternoon they peeked out from behind their window blinds.

It was dark inside the house. When my eyes became accustomed to the gloom, I saw that Jack and Jill did not enjoy many creature comforts. Their living room had only two old overstuffed chairs and one reading light. Old newspapers and magazines were scattered about the floor. When I was ushered into an unlit kitchen for a cup of coffee, I asked why they didn't turn on a light. "We are into energy conservation," Jill answered, "and every little bit helps."

After a few moments of coffee and conversation I discovered what she was talking about. Suddenly the floor started vibrating like the deck of an aircraft carrier on a high-speed run. "What is that?" I asked.

"Just the lights," Jack answered. "We run them at night because we don't want the power company to read the meter."

continued over

SOME HAZARDS OF GROW-ROOMS



- A 3000% increase in the utility bill brings customer service representative to the front door.
- The pungent aroma of *Cannabis indica* wafting through the suburb attracts nosy neighbors.
- Vibration from halide ballasts shakes pictures off the wall in the adjoining apartment.
- Fire department puts out fire in grow-room while cultivator shops for groceries.
- Thieves break in and steal cannabis. Neighbors call police. Police find grow-room.
- Garbageman finds six cannabis leaves stuck to garbage can lid and notifies authorities.
- Landlord forgets to give twenty-four hour notice of termite inspection.

continued from previous page

when the lights are running." Jill turned on a kitchen light (25 watt), locked the front door, and then we went downstairs.

The basement, about 800 square feet, was extremely active. I counted ten 1,000 watt halide lamps and two banks of fluorescents. They were separated into two growing areas by a large furnace. The walls of the largest room were covered with a reflective tinfoil insulation. *Cannabis indica* was everywhere; there must have been a thousand plants in various stages of growth. Transpired particulates saturated the air with a skunk-like fragrance. The entire basement vibrated with the buzz of halide ballasts.

It was not a comfortable environment. The air was charged and felt as though bolts of electricity were about to jump from floor to ceiling.

We stood on the stairs for awhile and just looked. Finally, I asked why they had two growing areas.

"One area is spring and the other autumn," Jill replied. "Come down and I'll show you what I mean." She led the way into a corner of the basement which contained the fluorescents and two halides.



"We run these lights eighteen hours a day to keep the plants in their vegetative cycle," Jill said. Then, pointing to a row of large plants against the wall, she continued, "These are our mother plants. They are variations we developed from an Afghani strain we call 'Big Momma.' This one is a Thai-Afghani hybrid; this one is an African-Afghani hybrid. We take cuttings from these mother plants and root them under the fluorescents and then grow them out under the halides. Then we sell the rooted cuttings to other growers or move them into the autumn room for flowering."

"What price do you get for the cuttings?" I asked.

"We get from forty to one hundred dollars apiece, depending on the size of the order," Jack answered. "Since there is as much risk in selling ten as there is in selling a hundred, we charge a lot for an order of ten."

The tinfoil-covered autumn room was filled with foot-and-a-half tall cuttings in eight-inch pots. "We don't grow tall plants like they do outdoors," said Jill. "We just grow them up to about two feet and then switch the light cycle back to 12 hours a day to initiate flowering. Each one of the cuttings will produce about two ounces of sinsemilla buds."

"What price do you get for the flowers?" I asked.

"We wholesale them for \$200 an

ounce," Jack answered. "Our customers break the ounces down into grams and then sell each gram for about twelve to fifteen dollars."

"What about the electricity? Doesn't the utility company wonder about the size of your bill?" I asked.

"Each halide costs about thirty dollars a month to operate," Jack answered. "It adds up to about \$300 a month, which we figure is about as far as we can go and still remain respectable. We installed a hot-tub out back, but of course we never heat it. We are also thinking about getting a propane-powered generator with a custom-built muffler. It would sure help."

"What about the smell?" I asked. "Surely your neighbors can smell the plants."

"We don't ventilate until the neighbors are asleep, which is usually around one o'clock in the morning. And we use negative-ion generators," Jill replied, pointing to a small black box. "They cause the odor-bearing particulates to fall to the ground instead of floating out with the exhaust."

"It seems as though you have solved the basic problems," I commented. "But how do you keep everything under control all of the time? What about the gossip of the neighbors or an unexpected visit by the landlord?"

To my nervous questions, Jack and Jill smiled, looked, and said "... ear."





BY ED ROSENTHAL



Dear Ed

I am doing an early shading trip so that my plants will be ripening about a month and a half earlier than usual. Will it hurt the potency of the buds or the plant if two out of seven days the plants are left unshaded?

—Legalize Marijuana
Los Angeles, California

The buds will be about 25-30% smaller. In experiments on chrysanthemums researchers found that the flowers lost about 14% of their size for each day per week the plants were left unshaded.

Dear Ed

We grow with a metal halide and a passive hydroponic setup. Our growing medium is three parts vermiculite, three parts perlite, one part sand and two parts gravel mix. Nutrients are supplied through wicks hanging from the containers. Recently, a slimy green substance (algae) has begun to grow on the wicks and in the jars holding our nutrient solution. Will this stuff creep into the

containers and hurt our plants? Are the nutrients affected by it?

We have another question concerning the light cycle. We grow a pure Afghani, a pure Mexican from Oaxaca, and a hybrid of unknown origin. How should we turn back the lights to achieve the fastest and most even maturation? Will some plants mature much sooner than others?

—BUDZ R US
Worcester, MA

The green material in the nutrient solution is algae. The main problem that occurs when these microscopic plants grow is that they tie up the nutrients. They do not seem to hamper the plants. Algae is near impossible to eliminate without chemicals that might also affect your plants. To keep it more under control, enclose the nutrient solution in opaque containers so that the algae does not get the light it needs for vigorous growth.

The Afghani probably flowers at 10 hours of darkness. The Oaxacan probably needs 11 hours. I would set the lights at 11 hours of darkness to start flowering

PLANT OF THE MONTH

This is my first crop. The plant was over seven feet tall and gave about 13 ounces of prime indica bud. Not bad for living in New Hampshire. Aye.

—R.W.M.
Stayn' High in New Hampshire

GARDEN OF THE MONTH

This is an indica-sativa cross with a recent "Kona" rejuvenation. If you think it looks good in the pictures, you should see what it does outside with a short and humid "Michigan Summer."

These plants were just over four months old when cut. They were grown under a 1000 watt metal halide and continuously fed organic food mixed with water.

Well, it's time to go take care of my outdoor garden.

—Gumby Buds in Michigan

and ripen the buds at 12 or 13 hours of darkness.

Dear Ed

How can I measure the percentage of THC in my plants?

—Paul
Verona, Wisconsin

There is no easy scientific way to measure THC which is available to individuals. I think that a thin layer chromatograph (TLC) test could be developed fairly easily. There are many scientific research papers on this subject available at your nearest college or research library. They cover the field of THC analysis very thoroughly. The University of Mississippi Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (RIPS) compiled *Marijuana, An Annotated Bibliography* published by McGraw Hill, New York, 1976. This volume lists all of the scientific papers published about cannabis and THC in the U.S. and many from foreign countries for the years 1964-74. Since then RIPS has self-published several updates. Serious researchers should write RIPS, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, 38677.



Dear Ed

I have a growing room which measures about 7' x 13' and I use two 1000 watt halides and five homemade hydroponic trays which each measure 6' x 1'. After pulling 10 males, the 15 females yielded about 20 ounces of bud and 34 ounces of leaf.

The garden would have yielded more but the cold snap around here in January slowed growth. I need to insulate the walls to gain better temperature control. I invested a total of \$1800 in all, but got all that back and then some in 90 days. I'm about two weeks from my second harvest, and the plants look better than ever.

Several words of caution: though I rejuvenated the plants instead of cloning new ones and although the plants are healthy now, it took them awhile to regain vigor and I lost three weeks growing time.

When designing hydroponic trays I would suggest leaving a root block or access to the drain or when the plants get rootbound, the drain clogs and you have to disturb the gravel and roots to clear it. Now I use a 4" wide piece of PVC pipe with holes drilled all over it set on end over the drain to facilitate proper water flow to the drain. This allows me to clear the roots growing towards the drain with a screwdriver.

My biggest dilemma was electricity consumption. I felt that the two lights running 18 hours a day was pushing the limit to an already high electric bill, but I didn't feel that one light with a shuttle would adequately illuminate almost 95 square feet.

I set the trays on a 2' x 6' track over the reservoir, and put appliance rollers underneath. This allows me to bunch all the trays up at one end of the room in a 6' x 5½' space. I use a piece of white bathroom paneling for maximum reflectivity. One light running constantly will crowd the plants in this space in about four weeks. They'll be about 2½ feet tall.

At this stage, I roll the trays apart and add the second light, spreading the plants throughout the room. I turn the lights down to 12 hours. This leaves monthly power consumption constant.

Now for my question. Does intermittent or constant CO₂ enrichment produce the best results or do they both work fine?

—Frank
Cincinnati, Ohio

Constant enrichment is more appropriate for a system with a closed air cycle. Many closet systems and systems in rooms do not have truly adequate air circulation, and a constant flow of CO₂ to speed photosynthesis. Intermittent injection would lead to

peaks and valleys in the rate of photosynthesis.

Systems which have intermittent air venting do best with intermittent enrichment. The CO₂ is injected into the room when the outside circulation fans turn off. The plants have the use of the enriched air until the fans turn on and vent the air.

Dear Ed

I read the letter from Dirty Earny in your February '86 column regarding senescence of clones. The writer failed to describe the appearance of the clones as they died or failed to root.

I've had about an 80% success rate with cuttings from outdoor plants and then rooting them inside under fluorescents. Without a description of the clones as they died, there are two possible causes:

1. Shock: high intensity lights outside, low under fluorescents

2. Improper cloning technique.

My guess from prior experience is that both are the cause for his no-success rate. Even though his technique sounds diligent, I believe that his problem is something basic that he has overlooked. The following methods work very well for me:

1. Take the more succulent cuttings from the shadiest part of the plant.

2. The cuttings should have three nodes. The bottom two nodes should have leaves removed.

3. Cut the bottom at a 45 degree angle just below the third node. This leaves more rooting area exposed for root initials to emerge from the vascular and cambium layers.

4. Insert the cutting into the medium so that the lower two nodes are beneath the soil line.

5. Keep the medium moist, but not soggy. I use one part each vermiculite and Pro-Mix.

6. Cover with plastic wrap.

7. Air and mist daily.

8. After one week, add a dilute solution of high phosphorous (P) nutrients. A typical formula might be 10-50-10.

9. Be sure to pinch the apical bud to redirect the energy to rooting.

10. If the cut turns yellow, reduce the humidity.

11. If they wilt or lose vigor, increase the humidity. (I'm assuming no pathogens are present.)

12. If a green mold appears, air more often and decrease humidity.

13. For a foot-wide tray use two fluorescent tubes. I use Gro and Sho (Westinghouse).

Cuttings do suffer shock when moved from one environment to another. I've moved many types of plants from under fixtures to a window and had leaf drop, death, etc., and vice-versa. Perhaps

Earny should minimize the changeover —use cuttings from the shaded side of the plant.

Perhaps he has over-dipped the cuttings in IAA, NAA, etc. That inhibits rooting. A light dusting will do.

Some of the mobile elements may be being leached out of the leaves—add dilute 15-30-15 to the mist once a week —Propagation Pro

Illinois

Thanks for your info, Pro. I have just a few things to add. T.L., a regular contributor to HIGH TIMES' "Grow American" column, claims that the easiest way to root cuttings is in water, the same way you'd root a houseplant cutting. He says that for the highest success rate, change the water daily or aerate it. He adds a high P dilute nutrient solution after a few days.

Rockwool comes in small sized pieces for cuttings and germination. It is very easy to root cuttings in it. Some stores sell inexpensive foam cubes for germination and clones. These also have a high success rate.

Dear Ed

My husband and I are growing our first crop indoors under a 125,000-lumen halide. Three of the plants are female skunk. When they were three months old and 2½ to 3 feet tall the light was left off for more than 14 hours. Two days later the plants flowered.

We moved the light back up to 14 hours a day and now, a month later, the plants are 3½ to 4 feet tall and very bushy. The buds are ¾ of an inch long and very sticky. They smell strong, too.

When should we put the plants into flowering?

—TN

Auberry, California

The plants should be put into flowering now. There is no reason to prolong the vegetative growth stage since the light can only penetrate a few layers of leaves. A taller plant does not necessarily mean more buds.

Dear Ed

I was told that molding weed will increase its potency. The method is to place the wet weed in a plastic bag with orange peels which have blue mold. Is there any truth to this?

—Anonymous

Wixom, Wisconsin

I tried burying some grass in the ground in newspaper. When I dug the stuff out of the ground it looked so bad even after it was dried that I threw it away rather than smoked it.

The blue mold on the orange peel is a form of penicillin. Not a good thing to smoke.

continued on page 75

The five-foot parabolic reflective hood, manufactured by Hydrotech, resembles a satellite dish antenna. A 1000-watt phosphor coated metal halide lamp produces an all-round growing spectrum and it is easy on the eyes. The compact ballast on the left in the foreground regulates electricity to the lamp. The manufacturer boasts that this huge hood reflects light evenly to all the plants below.

In the Northwest, one of the most popular soil mixes is Black Gold, the "Cadillac of Potting Soils," supplied by Maliboo of Oregon. The soil is available in either 20% or 50% concentration of worm castings. Worm's Way supplied the sack of worm castings. These nitrogen-rich worm droppings are mixed with soil amendments to create super soil for those who like to mix (or roll) their own.

Dansco supplied the long white bags of rockwool that are distributed by Wunderwool. The bags are the containers. A small opening is slit in the bag then a plant is transplanted into the water and air saturated rockwool. Rockwool is molten rock spun like cotton candy into a fiber. It can be used as a hydroponic growing medium or just like soil. Rockwool used for home insulation contains a plant-toxic fire retardant.

The grow bags in the foreground are furnished by Domestic Growers Supply. The bags are available in asserted sizes from $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon to over 15 gallons. Grow bags are very similar to their rigid counterpart, but take up very little storage space and are so inexpensive that prosperous growers consider the bags disposable. Asterion in the back row (also by Domestic) resembles a space blanket made with rip-stop material. Asterion is hung from the ceiling and used as a reflective, moveable wall.

Nature's Control supplies a complete line of predatory insects (good bugs that eat bad ones). Their biggest movers are the predatory spider mites. Ben Jackson, owner of Nature's, is a fountain of knowledge on the war between the arthropods.

The chart below lists all the suppliers in this article and some that were not cited. Stores are listed as being "Full

"Service" - Store handles lighting, hydroponics and/or soil, and assorted growing supplies.

"Grow Books" - Some of the stores carry a complete line of marijuana growing books. Most stores handle a limited selection of "straight books."

"Catalog" - A catalog is essential to make an informed buying decision.

"Mail Order" - Stores generally ship UPS ground service. Next and Second Day Air UPS service is also available.

"Visa/Mcard" - Put the garden on plastic and pay installments

Give a few of these stores a call to get more detailed information on their products.



Applied Hydroponics
150 Beliam Blvd 300
San Rafael CA 94901
800-634-9999

YES YES YES YES YES

Applied Hydroponics
4527 San Fernando Rd
Glendale CA 91204
818 243 0068

YES YES YES YES YES

Alternative
438 E 86th St #259
Indianapolis, IN 46240
317 823-0432

YES YES YES YES YES

Aqua Culture Inc
P O Box 25467
Tempe AZ 85282
602 966 6429

YES YES YES YES YES

Closet Garden
P O Box 761
Greensboro NC 27417
919 294 4484

NO NO YES YES NO

Dansco
3100 W Howe
Seattle WA 98119
206 282 7282

YES YES YES YES YES

Dansco
315 North 105th
Seattle WA 98133
206 784 9492

YES YES YES YES YES

Dansco Valley Halide
East 14109 Sprague Ste 2
Spokane WA 99216
509-924-8333

YES YES YES YES YES

Dansco Indoor Garden Center
844 University Ave
Berkeley CA 94710
800-523-1367

YES YES YES YES YES

Dansco
4128 Meridian
Bellingham WA 98226
206 671 0414

YES YES YES YES YES

Diamond Lights
713 Mission Ave
San Rafael CA 94901
415-459-3334

YES YES YES YES YES

Domestic Growers Supply
POB 809 1 699 Brownlow Rd
Cave Junction, OR 97523
503-592-3615

NO NO YES YES YES

Dyna-Gro Corporation
372F Bel Marin Keys Blvd
Novato, CA 94947
415 382 1360

NO NO YES YES YES

FULL SERVICE
SHOW ROOMS
CATALOG
MAIL ORDER
VIEWING

FULL SERVICE
SHOW ROOMS
CATALOG
MAIL ORDER
VIEWING

Eco Enterprises 2821 N E 55th Seattle, WA 98105 800-426-6937	YES YES YES YES YES
Emerald City Halide N. 8016 15th Ave. N.E. Seattle, WA 98115 206-527-1035	YES YES YES YES YES
Energy Savers, Inc. 22138 South Vermont Ave. #C Torrance, CA 90502 800-421-2994	YES YES YES YES YES
Evergreen Halide 10507 E Mill Plain Vancouver, WA 98664 206-256-4901	YES YES YES YES YES
Full Circle P.O. Box 6 Redway CA 95560 707-923-3988	YES YES YES YES YES
Full Moon 217 S.W. 2nd Corvallis, OR 97338 503-757-2532	YES YES YES YES YES
Gectechnology 8485 Glenn Arbor Rd Ben Lomond, CA 95005 408-336-2321	YES YES YES YES YES
Green Air Products P.O. Box 06152 Portland, OR 97220 503-663-2000	NO NO YES YES NO
Halide of Oregon 9220 S.E. Stark Portland, OR 97216 503-256-2400	YES YES YES YES YES
HIGH TIMES 211 E. 43rd St New York, NY 10017 212-972-8484	NO YES NO YES NO
Homegrown Halide 12805 Pacific Ave. Tacoma, WA 98444 206-531-9641	YES YES YES YES YES
Hydro Tech 10929 N.E. Sandy Blvd Portland, OR 97220 503-253-4097	YES YES YES YES YES
Hydro-Tech 3929 Aurora Ave. N Seattle, WA 98103 206-632-8535	YES YES YES YES YES
J.C.I.G.S. P.O. Box 02009 Portland, OR 97202 503-771-6804	YES YES YES YES YES

Lazara Bazar P.O. Box 808 Springfield, OR 97747 503-687-0139	NO YES YES YES YES
Light Manufacturing 1634 SE Brooklyn Portland OR 97217 503-231-1582	YES YES YES YES YES
Nature's Control P.O. Box 35 Medford, OR 97501 503-733-5827	NO NO YES YES YES
Pyroponic Industries, Inc. P.O. Box 1071 Meinrose Park IL 60150 312-544-8009	YES NO YES NO NO
Salem Halide & Gardening 245 Chemeketa Salem, OR 97301 503-362-5880	YES YES YES YES YES
Sinclairville Tipts P.O. Box 2046 Corvallis, OR 97339 503-757-8477	NO YES YES YES YES
Sun Circle Inc. R.F.D. 253 C Ferndale, CA 95536 707-786-9472	YES NO YES YES NO
Suncor P.O. Box 11116 Portland, OR 97211 503-281-6401	NO NO YES YES NO
Superior Growers Supply Inc. 4670 Dawn Ave E Lansing, MI 48823 800-227-0027	YES YES YES YES YES
The Indoor Garden Store West 4 Main Spokane, WA 99201 509-456-8289	YES NO YES YES YES
The Indoor Gardener 1311 S. Pacific Hwy Talent OR 97540 503-535-5313	YES YES YES YES YES
Wholesale Light Suppliers P.O. Box 3361 Spokane WA 99220 509-456-8005	YES NO YES YES YES
Wanderwool 16521 Meridian Ave. N Seattle, WA 98133 206-542-4754	NO NO YES YES YES
Worms Way 4620 South St. Road 446 Bloomington, IN 47401 812-837-9901	YES YES YES YES YES

growers should use extra caution near harvest time.

Around August 1, the males started to show and I cut them down as soon as I detected one. I cut them down rather than pulled them up so that I would not disturb the females' roots. I have them growing very close together. You have to be very careful not to let any pollen fly around. To do that you have to make sure to get the males early, before the flowers open.

I had to go to the patches more often to check on males. Since I am more of a breeder than just a grower, I also kept two males in another patch, which also contained seven females. This was strictly a seed patch. There was certainly a dichotomy there. Here I was cutting down males, and in a couple of weeks I'd be bringing pollen into the patches to fertilize selected females.

I find that if you have a potent plant to begin with, the difference between the stone of sinsemilla compared to moderately seeded pot is insignificant. The biggest difference is in the taste.

Lightly seeding dope insures the continuation of the seedline. It assures everyone, customer and grower alike, that there will be seeds for next year's crop. But the customer is more interested in the cosmetic appearance of the stuff. He doesn't like the seeded stuff because it contains immature seed bits and it's harder to roll—the seeds must be removed. It's a lot harder to remove seeds from resinous than from Colombian.

The major risk these days is detection. I know one grower who was turned in by his neighbors, a retired couple. They had put in 30 years, then retreated to their modest trailer on two acres. They resented their young neighbor's affluence and arrogance. He had a new four-wheel drive vehicle and hung out all day. The neighbor detected some plants and called the sheriff. He came right to the door with two squad cars and a pick-up truck.

In California each rural county has its own pot spotter. He flies around all summer, noting where patches are and occasionally busting a patch. He takes care of

the easy ones with the rest of the sheriff's department, but mostly he marks the locations on a map and sets up the action for CAMP. They come in for a short period late in the summer after he has gathered all his information and harvest the patches.

The early busts by the sheriff's department were front page in the local newspaper: one or two a week, from 12-500 plants. They got a bunch with thousands of plants. The CAMP team came in August. A friend and I watched them from a hilltop.

BY HOMER GROWN

• 1986 BY HOMER GROWN AND ED ROSENTHAL

The crews varied in size but they contained about ten members including the pilot and loaders.

This is a far cry from Denny, California. A few years ago everybody was growing it in their backyard. It was right out in the open and upfront. CAMP used a paramilitary operation. They closed the town off, severed communications and harassed the citizenry as they harvested its crop. The helicopters started in the center of town and spiraled out into the mountains.



Two years ago they used Hueys to haul in the crews and haul out the pot. The Hueys have a hoist in them so they would hoist up the crop and load it into the 'copter. Then the crew would walk to the next patch if it was close or re-load into the Huey to be lowered to the next field. When the 'copter is filled up, it empties its load into a dumptruck located on an accessible road. The helicopter also checks out the surrounding area to see if there are any gardens which were not sighted by the sheriff.

The planes do the once-over for the entire territory, but concentrate on areas known to have lots of hippies. In one part of the county, the planes and 'copters flew back and forth in a north-south grid. When they were done, they went east-west.

This year they started to use independent contractors who they hired to haul the stuff. The contractors have smaller helicopters and lift their load in a net attached to the frame. The helicopter usually lands to let the crew off, but can unload while hovering in steep areas.

My patch was about three miles away from where they were working. But I went to the patch, fertilized and checked the irrigation lines. I heard them working all afternoon but I never saw them. Two days later I went to a patch 15 miles away and it had been harvested. That was the first patch I ever lost to CAMP. They spent only one day in my area, but I think they got about 60% of the pot. Most of the growers are inexperienced city people and they don't know how to conceal the plants or themselves. They leave highways to their patches, and don't realize how much you can see from the air.

Once you get through CAMP you've got a pretty good chance of making it. But as soon as CAMP splits, the deer hunting season starts. Hunters are walking all over the woods. I've had people walk within a hundred feet of the patch. I've seen their tracks. People sometimes don't recognize it though and I was lucky. The hunters are well aware of what's going on and generally steal what they find. Sometimes they turn it in. This year the California hunting licenses warn people to be on the lookout for patches. ●



A patch in late August. The hybrid buds are near ripening. The sativa (last in the row) won't be ready for a while yet.



Early August. The plants are seven feet tall and sexing.

IN AUGUST

A small female plant. It is just indicating.

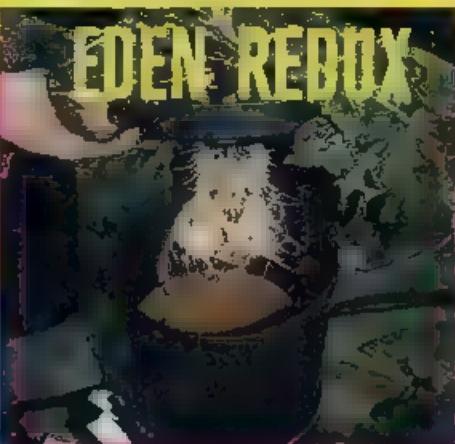


I planted the transplants close together. After sexing, the plants had about 4 square feet each. In rows that would be 2 feet apart in rows 2 feet apart.



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**It is the policy
of the United States of America,
which we enacted at Nuremberg
at the
war crimes trials,**

**for his own
actions.**

**And,
if your government,
even the
President
of the United States,
tells you to do wrong,
it is your responsibility,
personally,
not to.**

**And,
the fact
that you are ordered
to commit
a heinous crime
is no defense.**

**It is my view
that if your agency uses
paraquat and herbicides now
and things turn out
as poorly as they may
that somewhere down the road
some of you—**

**We only have three names tonight,
Tom Byrne,
Andrea Myslicki
and George Bush,
the Vice President
of the United States
—some of you
could end up hunted down
for the rest
of your lives
like Adolf Eichmann
or Joseph Mengele.**

**I'm here tonight
to ask you not to do anything
that could possibly
lead to that. (3)**

MICHAEL GEISSON addressing the D.E.A. panel in Orlando, Florida, June 18, 1986; from the transcript of proceedings, public meeting on the Environmental Impact Statement, Cannabis Eradication on Non-Federal and Indian Lands in the Contiguous United States and Hawaii, sponsored by the U.S. Justice Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

EVIL RU

by Dean Latimer

In the summer of 1986, people are going to be terrified again by paraquat and by two other herbicidal poisons called glyphosate ("Roundup," from the Monsanto Chemical Company of St. Louis; or "Cleanup," from Ortho Chevron in San Francisco) and 2,4-D ("Esteron 99," from the Vertac Chemical Company of Memphis). As early as last April, state and local police in Illinois and other states were being given copious free supplies of the glyphosate-based Roundup herbicide from the Drug Enforcement Administration in Washington to use in pot-spraying projects this summer. By the time this article hits the newsstands, it's inevitable that some state or county police outfit will have bitten on the DEA's wonderful herbicides, and gone and blasted some pot plants somewhere with paraquat, glyphosate or 2,4-D—or maybe with all three poisons, if the local cops are as stupid as the DEA hopes they'll be.

Any police outfit that starts poisoning pot plants with herbicides is going to wind up immediately in court, shelling out serious money to defend themselves against lawsuits brought by environmentalist groups: the Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, and so on. These imbecile policemen will be enjoined by the courts from spraying any more herbicides, on marijuana or anything else, for as long as it takes for the judges hearing their cases to educate themselves about the environmental and medical hazards posed by herbicides like paraquat, glyphosate, and 2,4-D. These lawsuits will drag on for years, during which there will be no poisoning of pot plants with herbicides; and by the time these suits are settled, the DEA will have to figure out some other lovely way to terrify people in order to modify their social behavior.

In the meantime—this summer, as soon as any single marijuana plant anywhere is blasted with paraquat, glyphosate, or 2,4-D—people are going to be very

ELERS TO POISON U.S.?

appropriately terrified. "If you just don't smoke marijuana," imbeciles everywhere will surely be saying, "you've got nothing to worry about from paraquat or any other herbicide." These imbeciles, because of organic deficiencies in brain function, cannot put themselves in the place of all the non-marijuana parents, relatives, friends and assorted loved ones of the 50-some-million people in this country who do smoke marijuana at a fairly regular clip. Since there are no laws which ordain that marijuana must be examined for the presence of poisonous contaminants, you just cannot know whether the stash of your pot-smoking son or daughter, or your potsmoking best friend, or your potsmoking brother-in-law, or whatever has been poisoned. When the DEA succeeds in having marijuana poisoned with herbicides, it terrorizes not only the 50 million people in America who smoke pot but virtually every single individual in the whole country.



This is champion terrorism, the sort of thing that has a proven track record. By kidnapping just a few American citizens over the last couple years, Middle Eastern terrorists have scared the daylights out of the rest of us, with the exact effect that the terrorists desired: the economies of numerous foreign countries are completely screwed up now, for lack of tourist and investment money from terrorized Americans. Just so, by terrorizing most Americans by poisoning some marijuana that might be smoked by a few Americans, the DEA hopes to promote a vast sea-change in the personal attitudes of all Americans toward people who smoke marijuana.

That's the point of the Drug Enforcement Administration's herbicide program, on which these professionals in fear have been working diligently for exactly three years now. Briefly, in August of 1983, the DEA sprayed some paraquat on a 30-plant wilderness pot patch near the Chattahoochee River in North Georgia, and discovered that this scared people just beautifully. They sprayed on the Friday of a beautiful three-day

weekend, and by Saturday night every one of the thousands of vacationing families who'd been camped out along the Chattahoochee in Unicoi State Park, miles downstream, had evacuated the woods in a historic traffic jam for bucolic White County, Georgia. Pregnant women were calling radio talk-show medical advisers to ask if they oughtn't think about having abortions after being so closely exposed to this legendary super-toxin, paraquat. Now that is professionally scary!

Before the DEA could find another county sheriff mean and stupid enough to spray any of their wonderful poison in his bailiwick, though, they wound up in federal court, where NORML and a coalition of national environmentalist groups had them enjoined from committing any further such havoc. The judge ruled that the DEA had broken the law by spraying that Georgia pot patch without publishing a formal Environmental Impact Statement first.



As a result, the DEA spent the next three years—and over \$2 million from its allegedly overstrained budget—researching and publishing a series of Environmental Impact Statements.

The final DEA herbicide EIS, which leaves the DEA and all other police agencies technically at perfect liberty to spray herbicides from helicopters on pot growing anywhere in the country (except for Alaska, of course, where the pot laws are sane), is somewhat heftier than the Manhattan Yellow Pages. This is largely because, in order to follow the law properly, the DEA had to publish every letter they received from the public commenting on their forthcoming poisoning project.

These documents are going to be a gold mine for future historians, when they get around to unravelling the social pathology of America in the '80s. All those regional voices—pleading, cajoling, threatening, putting on pompous airs, quietly reasoning, or simply expressing shock and profound apprehension—make for a deeply moving symphony. And midway through them all you come to the magnificent letterhead of the Environmental Protection Agency, expressing its wholehearted support

"Terrifying people in order to modify their social behavior is not a registered use of our product."



—A vice-president of the Chevron Chemical Company, which manufactures paraquat, in 1983.

of the DEA's paraquat-glyphosate-2,4-D project, and helpfully suggesting that these federal dope cops could also spray diesel oil on pot in the woods, and the EPA would only applaud them for it. That's America in the Eighties, all right: this government has selected marijuana as an instrument for terrorizing everyone in this country away from any slightest notion of challenging federal police authority. ●

"Marijuana is not our greatest problem here. It is alcohol use among young and old here which causes the most difficult problems. I believe that heroin is also a grave problem here."

To poison the environment of an entire island which is agriculturally dependent is insane. To poison one of the few remaining places which is truly paradise, is no less than a sin.

Please leave us alone. Keep your poisons. Feed them to your own children and your own pets if it gives you satisfaction, but leave us alone."

—Ilene Kratka,
Honolulu, HI.

HERBICIDE ABUSE FOLIO

PARAQUAT

AKA
PQ, 'Quat, 1,1-dimethyl-4-4-bipyridinium dichloride, "Paraquat Plus."

CHARGES

Most potent and violently toxic poison used in industry. One mouthful causes certain death after days or weeks of horrible agony interspersed with phases of heartbreak remission. Causes lung damage when absorbed into the body by any route; one billionth of a gram of PQ causes visible lung damage in test animals. Very small doses of PQ also cause permanent brain damage, manifested by irreversible tremor and paralysis, identical to idiopathic Parkinson's Disease. All these charges are absolutely true.

TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS,
NEVER PUT INTO FOOD, DRINK
OR OTHER CONTAINERS. PA



"Remember, cannabis was invented by God. Remember that some of these pesticides were invented not just by man, but by Nazis in Nazi Germany. That is where the organic phosphates come from." — Roy Tuckerman

(Addressing D.E.A.'s E.I.S. Hearing)

NATURE AND USE

Paraquat is sprayed annually on over 50 million acres of industrial farmland and timberland in the United States. Its primary use is for pre-planting weed control: PQ is used to clear weeds from the seedbeds of extensive planting areas in early spring, before cultivation begins. PQ is never sprayed on or near consumable vegetation because it would poison the crop and any potential animal or human consumers. It's also used widely in forests, to clear the area around trees selected for cutting. Before the advent of the DEA's new herbicide program, federal law prohibited the use of paraquat anywhere except carefully delineated industrial areas; now it can be sprayed anywhere.

PQ was first developed in the 19th century as a dyemaking chelical. Its conspicuous toxicity in the unfortunate dyemakers who used it led to its employment as a plantkiller. Today it's merchandised by the Chevron Chemical Company of San Francisco with the brand-name "Paraquat Plus." PQ is the most rapid plantkiller on the market; on a clear day (PQ's killing action depends on sunlight), a plant sprayed in the morning with PQ will be completely

"I want to read to you a typical case of paraquat poisoning. This is from Science Digest:

The girl is about 16. She has been vomiting for hours. The course of the girl's poisoning is textbook, says her doctor, just like the 150 he has seen before. For about 40 more hours she vomits. Her yellowing eyes say her liver is failing. Her mouth and throat fill with lacerations and sores, and she can no longer swallow. The next day her breathing becomes labored; her chest heaves. The doctors stand by helpless, able only to kill the pain with morphine. She finally dies of suffocation, her lungs useless sacs of scaly tissue.'

"And this is what you want to do to your fellow Americans? That's disgusting. I don't like reading it. I don't like hearing it. But, it's better to read it than to have it happen to someone." — MICHAEL GEISSON

(Addressing D.E.A.'s E.I.S. Hearing)

dead, desiccated, discolored, and shrivelled before late afternoon.

HAZARDS AND LIABILITIES

As used industrially, paraquat by now has probably already slightly poisoned every single individual in North America. While nearly all the PQ sprayed on farm and timberland does bind tightly to clay particles in the soil beneath, when the desiccated plants themselves are subsequently burned, the combustion products of the PQ on them—its "pyrolytes," primarily a compound called 4,4'-bipyridil—are carried through the air as far as the wind blows for people to inhale. Government researchers years ago determined that nanogram-trace amounts of 4,4'-bipyridil have exactly the same toxic properties as its parent compound, paraquat; but nobody gets very excited about this because there's no marijuana involved.

Paraquat-sprayed marijuana would most certainly make its smokers sick, with symptoms ranging from cancer-promoting lung fibrosis to the acute symptoms of paraquat poisoning—depending on the dose of PQ inhaled—



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After review of the DEA's draft EIS on CANNABIS ERADICATION ON NON-FEDERAL AND INDIAN LANDS IN THE CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES AND HAWAII, we still have serious reservations about the use of paraquat for cannabis eradication in Hawaii, since doses as small as .1 ounce can be lethal and inhalation can cause serious lung scarring.

—Warren Ferreira
Deputy Chief of Police
City and County of Honolulu

All letters excerpted from the DEA's Environmental Impact Statement on CANNABIS ERADICATION ON NON-FEDERAL AND INDIAN LANDS IN THE CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES AND HAWAII.

If it were ever to occur in real life. Fortunately, PQ so effectively corrupts and desiccates all plant material, even marijuana, that no one who harvested a sprayed plant would ever be able to find buyers for it. Even if a sprayed plant were harvested only moments after spraying, and thoroughly scrubbed with soap, and transported to market in sunproof black bags, the PQ would nevertheless proceed to disfigure the material so conspicuously that no one would ever buy it, not even an ignorant, drugs-addled schoolchild. (When it comes to police-poisoned pot, people always get so brilliantly and inventively paranoid that you have to consider all these elaborate scenarios.)

Nevertheless, as soon as the police spray a single pot bush anywhere in the country, postriders everywhere, and all their friends and relations, will become acutely anxious about the state of their health. This happened to uncountable thousands of people during the memorable Paraquat Panic of the late '70s, when it was learned that the government of Mexico was poisoning vast forests of pot with paraquat. Mass-media sensation-mongers were guaranteeing everyone that tons of paraquat-tainted weed was all over the

"My name is Kenneth Bowman. And, as far as I know, I've never seen a marijuana plant, so I'm not here to speak for marijuana.

But I am deeply concerned about the poisons that are being used in our environment. I don't consider marijuana raisers or users my enemy. But, if the government chooses to poison the environment that I require to live and have good health and life, then I consider the government as my enemy."

(Addressing D.E.A.'s E.I.S. Hearing)

national market, and untold thousands of people were made physically ill from sheer emotional anxiety.

Finally in 1979, after testing thousands of samples of seized evidence pot from all around the country, the Atlanta Center for Disease Control was able to determine that no paraquat-tainted pot had ever made it across the border to poison any Americans anywhere. The media, bored by this time with the Paraquat Panic anyhow, neglected to report this evidence of their previous lying, and simply ceased talking about paraquat at all. They did this despite the fact that the Mexican government continued to spray paraquat extensively on pot in their nation, and are still spraying it to this day.

For the record, Dr. Mahmoud ElSohly of the University of Mississippi at Oxford's pharmacy department routinely tests evidence pot from all around the country for paraquat contamination. Over the last four years, ElSohly has reported to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, he's found PQ on less than one percent of all the pot he's examined, and the contamination levels have ranged around 20 to 50 nanograms of paraquat per gram of material.

In their official EIS documents, the

"I am writing in relation to the possible paraquat spraying in the area I live in (Humboldt County)

I am a low income woman, supporting myself by my artwork. Because of this I rely heavily on growing my own food. I have pets and my water is supplied by a spring.

Spraying 2-4D would contaminate this environment and make it not fit to live on.

Both the health of my animals and myself would be put in danger.

I am not a pot grower yet truly don't feel spraying is the answer you search for. You would only be killing off Mother Earth and we sure don't have another to replace her.

Please do not spray 2-4D in Humboldt County."

—Vicki Fikes
Garberville, CA

POISON

Harmful to Skin and Eyes.

DEA concludes that the few people unlucky enough to score pot tainted with paraquat at such low levels probably shouldn't sustain any significant lung damage (they didn't examine the brain-damage issue at all). Of course, once the police begin spraying in the USA, there's no way to predict how much pot they'll spray, where they'll spray it, or the levels at which they'll spray it.

These are the hazards and liabilities of paraquat-sprayed marijuana. Mainly they're in your head, which is exactly where the DEA's mind-control artists want them to be.

FIRST AID PLUS

There isn't a lot to be done about paraquat-sprayed marijuana, since it's never existed on the market before. During the bogus Paraquat Scare of 1978, Dr. Carleton Turner at U Miss., Oxford—which at the time was growing all the legal pot in America—did invent and patent a commercial paraquat-testing "kit," and strove mightily for months to buy ad space in **HIGH TIMES** for it. Upon investigation, we discovered that the test's reagents—if it was based on a simple sodium-dithionite "color" process—were probably just as likely to detect PQ in a kosher hotdog as often as

it found PQ in street pot, so we never accepted his money. Now, eight years later, Dr. Turner works in the White House as President Reagan's chief drug-policy adviser, in which office he personally cleared all the bureaucratic obstructions of the DEA's new herbiciding program.

One antidote to paraquat paranoia might be to monitor the pot-contamination figures from the lab of Dr. Mahmoud ElSohly at Ole Miss. If the PQ contamination rate rises, nationally or regionally, as a result of the DEA's spraying program, ElSohly's figures ought to reflect it. On the other hand, considering that ElSohly worked at Ole Miss for over a dozen years with Dr. Turner, a proven liar whose personal financial interest in fostering a national paraquat panic is so blatantly obvious, any paraquat figures at all coming out of Turner's once-and-future lab at Ole Miss are necessarily suspect.

The ultimate and permanent antidote to police-poisoned-pot paranoia would be to sensibly change the marijuana laws, and turn this herb into a conventional article of merchandise, subject to compulsory quality inspection by the USDA and FDA before it goes to market. But this isn't going to happen very soon. People like Dr. Turner and the DEA would be crazy to let pot get legalized, and give up this splendid instrument for terrorizing the entire public into the proper fear and trembling of federal authority. And there will always be scum like Dr. Turner and the DEA running drug policy in this country.



VERTAC

Esteron 99
Concentrate
2,4-D low volatile herbicide

2,4-D

AKA

"Agent Orange," 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid, "Esteron 99"

CHARGES

Causes cancer and miscellaneous tissue damage in large or repeated doses. Causes permanent nerve damage and transient alteration of consciousness in small acute doses.

These charges are true.

NATURE AND USE

2,4-D is used by industrial farmers to eradicate weeds from the seedbed before planting commercial crops, and to control weeds growing among the newly emerging plants before the plants have grown large enough to be defoliated by the 2,4-D. After spraying, several days must elapse before 2,4-D entirely kills the weeds on which it's been sprayed.

2,4-D was merchandised for nearly 20 years by the Dow Chemical Company of Michigan before bad publicity prompted Dow to turn over the rights to the patent to the Vertac chemical firm of Memphis, Tennessee; Vertac currently merchandises 2,4-D under the brand-name "Esteron 99."

The bad publicity about 2,4-D largely proceeded from the famous "Agent Orange" lawsuit, brought against Dow and the federal government on behalf of scores of Vietnam War veterans who were exposed to Dow's brand-name herbicide during extensive defoliation programs undertaken by the U.S. Armed Forces in Vietnam. The prime active ingredients in Agent Orange were 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T (2,4,5-trichlorophenoxyacetic acid), both of which yield tremendously toxic byproducts called dioxins. Persons exposed to dioxins (in industry as well as Vietnam) tend to come down with numerous ugly and untreatable medical afflictions over periods of years afterward: cancer, liver disease, birth defects, chronic organically based depression and dementia, and so on.

Since no one before this has ever smoked marijuana contaminated with traces of 2,4-D, it's impossible to responsibly speculate what the effects might be. The DEA nevertheless speculates in its herbicide EIS that the effects probably won't be too drastic, at least not in the immediate short term; and while they clearly stipulate that anyone who smokes a whole lot of 2,4-D-tainted pot, for years on end, will likely wind up with all sorts of vaguely-defined problems, this prospect is not going to deter them from spraying it. The Drug Enforcement Administration is not a public-health agency, it's a law-enforcement agency.

The immediate, acute effects of smoking "Agent Orange Pot" (as it will inevitably come to be called) may turn out to be interesting. In very small doses, when 2,4-D is administered to test animals, it has a decided stimulant effect on them, quite similar to caffeine. It may turn out that pot tainted with 2,4-D will furnish smokers an agreeably invigorating, pick-me-up sort of high. If so, it will probably also be destroying their nerve cells the same way 2,4-D destroys

nerve cells in test animals (as described graphically in the DEA's own documents).

Probably the single greatest hazard and liability of 2,4-D is simply that it'll be lost in the shuffle after the DEA herbicide program commences. When the police start blasting pot patches with paraquat, an enormous firestorm of public controversy is sure to light up overnight. Then, after legions of anguished citizens have expressed their horror about paraquat, the feds are entirely likely to trot out this little-known "Esteron 99" weedkiller, and inform the media that due to public hysteria about paraquat, they're voluntarily going to proceed with this supposedly less-toxic herbicide; and that even though Esteron 99 takes much longer than PQ to kill plants, thus greatly enhancing the chance that Esteron-sprayed pot will get to market, they're going to substitute Esteron for paraquat out of consideration for public opinion. And everyone will be so relieved at being saved from paraquat—and so grateful to these considerate law-enforcement officers for switching to a less notorious brand of poison—that the 2,4-D spraying will continue for years, until the casualties of long-term exposure start showing up everywhere.

FIRST AID

Since no one can predict the effects of smoking pot sprayed with 2,4-D, it's impossible to suggest what ought to be done about it. It would be nice if the DEA, when it committed itself to spraying 2,4-D on marijuana everywhere in this country (barring Alaska), had also committed itself to setting up a laboratory system whereby samples of marijuana, culled from police evidence bins all around the country, would be systematically tested for 2,4-D contamination, and the results be published regularly for the benefit of the public. However, the DEA has never suggested any such thing, and neither have any of the various government health agencies (the EPA, DHSS, etc.) which participated in the formulation of this herbicide project. After a suitable 2,4-D pot scare has been given time to cook up properly—maybe two or three growing seasons in the future—then the DEA itself will probably nobly suggest such a lab program. But for the time being, no responsible party in the government has the inclination (or the courage) to propose such an obvious public-health measure. Only the DEA could safely propose to waste the public money on some project to protect the health of drug addicts.

Again, the surest prophylactic against police-poisoned pot would be a change in the law that would compel the

continued on page 94

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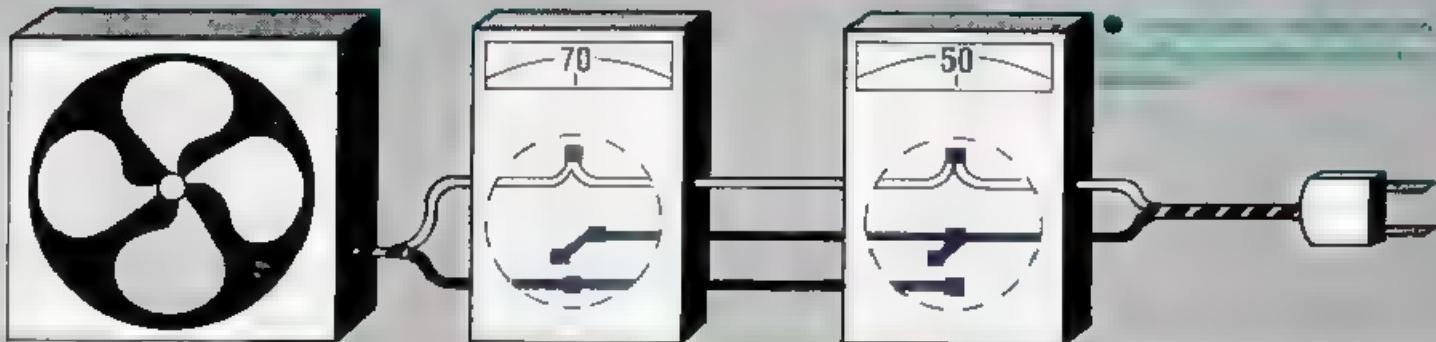


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THE GROWER

BY JORGE CERVANTES



"You won't believe my garden," said Tom as he and Alex walked down the third story hall of the apartment building. "The little girls are in full bloom and it really feels like a jungle in there," boasted Tom.

"Sounds like a hot setup to me," replied a provocative Alex.

"I mean, when you live in the city sandwiched between people, you're always paranoid one of them will smell the weed, so I ventilate sparingly—only twice a day. And the plants love it! You'll see."

Tom unlocked the spare bedroom's door. A huge billowing mass of hot humid air engulfed the pair as the door swung open, exposing the tightly enclosed grow room. "This is it," Tom said with glee.



• Humid rooms fog glasses

Alex was overwhelmed by the sudden burst of stale tropical air. "I think I like it. Only problem is: I can't see a fuckin' thing, my glasses are totally fogged!" complained Alex.

"Why don't you just run a flexible vent hose from the grow room through the crawl space above the ceiling to the vent



• A high speed squirrel cage fan vents this large grow room out the chimney.

over the stove?" asked Alex while wiping the fog from his glasses and squinting at the foliage in front of him.

An average 10' x 10' garden will use from 10 to 30 gallons or more of water a week. That's a barrel of water that is transpired (released into the air via the



• This circulation fan is flanked by reflective mylar.

stomata) and evaporated into the air. If this moisture is left in the small room, the leaves will get limp, transpiration will slow and the stomata (microscopic pores on the leaf's underside, responsible for taking in CO₂ and excreting waste water etc.) will be stifled. This moisture must be replaced with fresh air that lets the stomata function properly.

Air provides essential elements for plant growth. A plant uses carbon dioxide (CO₂) and oxygen (O₂) from the air. Oxygen is used for respiration, burning carbohydrates and other foods, which produces energy. It is also used by the roots when absorbing nutrients. Carbon dioxide must be present during photosynthesis. Without CO₂, a plant will die. The plant uses light energy to combine



• Negative ion generators abate odors.

CO₂ with water, producing sugar. These sugars are used to fuel the growth and metabolism of the plant. With reduced levels of CO₂, growth slows to a crawl.

Marijuana is able to use more CO₂ than the .03 - .04% of it that naturally occurs

DOORS

In the air. Increase the amount of CO₂ to 10-15% and plants grow twice as fast, providing that light, water, and nutrients are not limiting (see HIGH TIMES, January, 1985: "CO₂ for Enriching Experiences" by John Bushwell).

Fresh CO₂-rich air is at the heart of all successful indoor gardens. Outdoors, air is abundant and almost always fresh. The level of CO₂ in the air over a field of rapidly growing vegetation could be only 1/2 of normal on a very still day. Soon, new fresh CO₂ rich air blows in. Rains wash the air and plants of dust and pollutants. When plants are growing in a small room, the grower must replicate nature for a vigorous crop.

"My vent fan is just as important as water, light, heat or fertilizer," affirmed an anonymous grower recently. "Before I installed the vent fan, the air was always muggy and the garden grew slowly. I always had problems, but now growing is a breeze."

Plants use all of the CO₂ next to the leaf first. If air is totally still and no new CO₂-rich air is forced into its place, a dead air space forms around the leaf, stifling the stomata and slowing growth. Air also tends to stratify. The warm air stays near the ceiling and cooler air, close to the floor. These would-be problems are avoided by opening a door, window and/or installing an oscillating circulation fan.

The ideal marijuana grow room thermometer is a day-night or maximum-minimum type. Using this type of thermometer makes it easy for the horticulturist to retain the ideal daytime temperature range of 72-76 degrees F and 10-15 degrees lower at night.

Relative humidity is the ratio between the amount of moisture in the air and the greatest amount of moisture the air could hold at the same temperature. The hotter it is, the more moisture air holds, the cooler it is, the less moisture the air holds. When the temperature in a grow room drops, the humidity climbs and moisture condenses. For example, a 1000-cubic-foot (10' x 10' x 10') grow room holds about 17.5 ounces of water when the temperature is 70 degrees and relative humidity is at 100%. When the temperature is increased to 100 degrees,

continued on page 73

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FRESH INDOORS

continued from page 71

the same room will hold about 45 ounces of moisture at 100% relative humidity. That's 2½ times as much moisture. The moisture holding capacity of air doubles with every 20 degrees F. increase in temperature. Where does this water go when the temperature drops?

Cannabis grows best in a relative humidity range from 40 to 60%. A constant humidity rate promotes healthy, even growth. Humidity affects the transpiration rate of the stomata. When high humidity exists, water evaporates slowly. The stomata close, transpiration slows and so does plant growth. Water evaporates quickly into drier air causing stomata to open, increasing transpiration and growth.

A hygrometer measures relative humidity. This instrument will save you and your plants much frustration and fungus. By knowing the exact moisture content in the air, the humidity may be adjusted to a safe 50% level that encourages transpiration and discourages fungus growth.

Dry heat emitted by the HID system and a vent fan are usually all the humidity control necessary. Other dry heat sources, such as a heat vent from the furnace, wood stove or natural gas, work well to lower humidity. If using forced air from a furnace to lower humidity, make sure warm, dry air does not blow directly on plants. This dry air dehydrates plants rapidly.

Relative humidity control is an integral part of bug and fungus prevention and control. High humidity (80% plus) may promote fungus and stem rot. Maintaining low (50% or less) humidity greatly reduces the chances of fungus formation. Some bugs like humid conditions, others do not. Spider mites take much longer to reproduce in a humid room.

Insect population and fungi are also affected by temperature. In general, the cooler it is, the slower bugs, especially spider mites, and fungus reproduce and develop.

Indoors fresh air is one of the most commonly overlooked factors contributing to a bountiful harvest. Fresh air is the least expensive element that can be made available to a plant. Experienced growers really understand the importance of fresh air and take the time to set up a vent fan.

A vent fan pulls air out of a room more efficiently than a fan located in the center of the room can push it out. The main concerns when installing a vent fan are for no light or odors to escape from the exterior vent while letting out ample air. This can be accomplished in several ways. Baffle or turn the light around a

continued over

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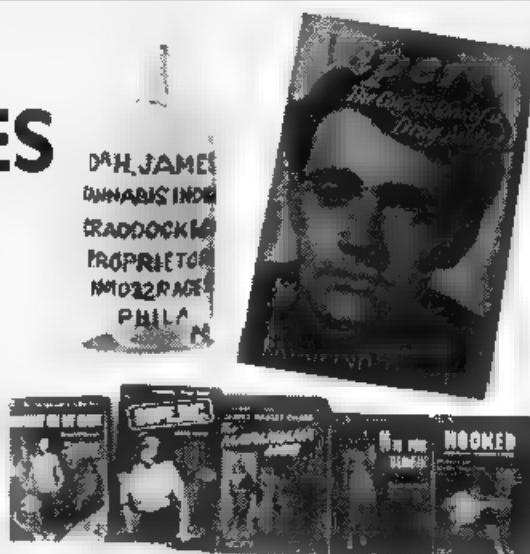
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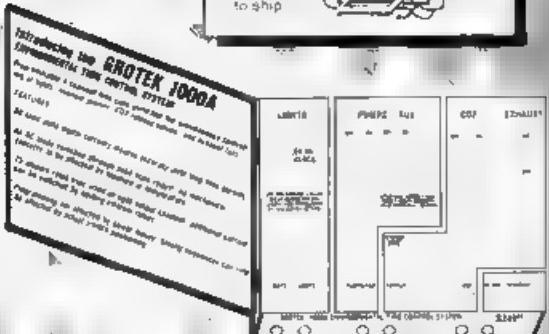
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GREAT INDOORS

continued from previous page

corner so there is little or no chance of escaping. Use a 4" flexible dryer hose for small, one-light grow rooms and 8-12" pipe for larger installations. Place one end of the hose outdoors. It should be placed high enough, preferably over 12', so the odor is above most pedestrians' heads. One of the best vents is the chimney. The outlet may be camouflaged by using a dryer hose wall outlet. The other end of the hose is attached to the vent fan. The vent fan is then placed near the ceiling so it vents off hot, humid air. Check for air leaks. Set the fan up, then go outdoors after dark to inspect for light leaks.

Vent fans are rated by the number of cubic feet per minute (CFM) they are able to replace or move. Use a fan that will replace the volume (cubic feet) of the grow room in less than five minutes. The air pulled out is immediately replaced by fresh air that is sucked in through the numerous tiny cracks or openings in the room. Tightly sealed grow rooms will need an open window or air intake vent to allow enough inflow of air.

A thermostat regulates temperature by turning a heat or cooling source on or off, so the temperature stays within a specified range.

A thermostat is easily wired to a vent fan. When it gets too hot, the thermostat turns the vent fan on, forcing the hot, stale air out of the room. The vent fan remains on until the desired temperature is reached then the thermostat turns off the fan. The vent fan should be all the temperature control necessary. A refrigerated air conditioner can be installed if the heat and humidity are a big problem. If excessive heat is a problem, but humidity is not a concern, a swamp cooler will work well.

A humidistat is similar to a thermostat but regulates humidity instead. Humidists cost \$30-50 and are worth their weight in resin glands. The humidistat is wired in line with the thermostat to the vent fan (see drawing #4). Each can operate the fan independently. As soon as the humidity (or temperature) gets out of the acceptable range, the fan turns on to vent the humid (or hot) air outdoors.

"What a trick!" beamed Tom as he flicked on the fan over the stove in his apartment. "Now all I have to do is turn this fan on."

"Yeah, your next harvest should be twice the size with this ventilation system," said Alex with a smug smile.

"I'm amazed installing the flexible plastic hose was so cheap and easy. This should have been done long ago," Tom said handing Alex a joint.

"You know, two heads are better than one!" said Alex, peering through a cloud of smoke. ■

continued from page 57

Dear Ed

Does a female flower still produce resin when the pistils dry up? Should the plant be harvested with a few still living?

—Tom

Warsaw, Indiana

The plant continues producing resin and THC as the false seedpods form. Since new flowers are constantly forming there will also be fresh flowers on the bud. The bud should be harvested when the preponderance of the flowers have formed these pods.

Dear Ed

I wish to give your readers some advice I learned from sad experience. I was given some green lights by a friend and used them on my plants. Within two days half of my crop died from the exposure. After the slaughter I went to the library. Out of 40 garden books, 5 were on lights. One book had a paragraph on green light and it agreed with what I said, green lights kill.

Green fiberglass has the same effect as the green lights. Plants die when exposed to light coming through it.

Do you know why?

—Spacely the Closet Farmer

Northeast New York

I know that plants look green because they reflect most green light while absorbing other colors especially bands of red and blue light, but I was unaware of the damaging effect green light can have. Perhaps someone else can provide more information on the subject. I am stumped.

Dear Ed

Last November at harvest time I pulled the entire plant, roots and all, and then put the roots in boiling water for 30 seconds. In the next two days the plants changed from a dark to a light green and purple. Also the smell of the plant became more powerful. Would this effect happen again if I just stripped the buds and dried them, or did boiling the roots have any effect on the plants?

—R C B

Weaverville, California

The boiling treatment did not have any effect upon the potency. As plant leaves dry they turn lighter green and then other pigments which were always there, but invisible can be seen.

I do not think that boiling the roots accentuated this process. Perhaps readers could try a controlled experiment by boiling the roots as described after removing some branches as a control. Please report back.

continued on page 76

HELP FOR GROWERS!

Dear Grower,

Your choice of harvest scissors is very important. After trying countless pairs, I finally discovered the oriental-styled "Soft-Form" Handle Scissors with its patented soft grip. The unique grip was easy on my hand and fingers and increased my speed and endurance as well. To keep my scissors working properly, I would apply a very light coating of mineral oil to the blades. This would protect the blades against resin build-up during trimming. A little oil on my fingertips protected them too. A discussion of other Alternative Harvest Techniques is available for \$3.00.

I always used a Seal-A-Meal for packaging my stash, but now you can get a vacuum-type model for that extra vacuum-packed protection. For no-hassle-storage of seeds or extracts, straight-sided Glass Shell Vials worked perfectly. Another product I've found useful are the Yellow Sticky Traps we use in our insect-rearing facilities. These will provide you with early detection of many types of insect pests that might invade your plantscape. If whiteflies show up, our Whitefly Parasite will control them, and for spider mites, try our Predator Mite for best results. We offer a selection of Bausch and Lomb 5X and 10X Magnifiers to help examine your plants for pests. Finally, I always like to use compost-making booklet, which comes with a compost-making booklet, is an easy and attractive way to quickly produce compost. Our ad prices include shipping. If you have a question about one of our products, feel free to call us.

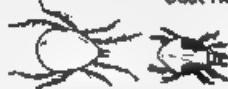
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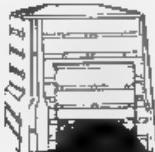
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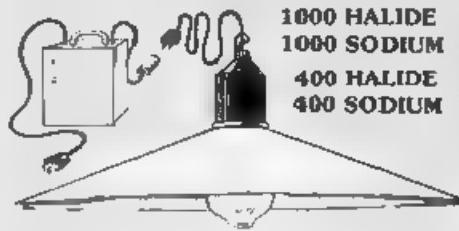
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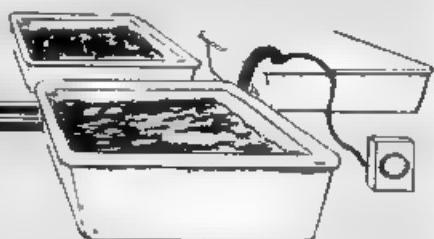
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A - S - K - E - D

continued from page 75

Dear Ed

If you use encarsia formosa wasps in an indoor garden to control whiteflies—then what? Do you have a garden full of wasps?

—Anonymous
U.S.A.

The wasps are very small, and you cannot see them without looking for them. They cannot sting you or bite and they are solitary rather than social. They do not totally eliminate the whiteflies, but reach a balance with them, keeping the population very low. The wasps that cannot find food (whiteflies) die.

Dear Ed

How long does collected pollen last? Can it be refrigerated to last longer? Any special techniques involved in preserving it?

—Kyle
Santa Monica, California

Pollen in a glassine envelope stored in a drawer lasts from two weeks to a month. Refrigerating it will preserve it a few weeks longer. Frozen pollen can be stored for at least a year and probably much longer.

Dear Ed

Is internodal length a trait of specific genes in a plant? Can it be influenced by the amount of light or nutrients a plant receives?

—Name Withheld
Strassburg, Illinois

Yes, it is a factor of genetics. However both light and nutrients affect the length. Plants grown under low light conditions tend to stretch towards the light. High nitrogen (N) levels in warm weather tend to increase internodal length.

Some ornamental flower growers use a hormone packaged commercially as B-9 to inhibit stem growth so that plants look stockier. It is frequently used by nurseries on planted chrysanthemums and coleus.

Dear Ed

I have a friend who has been growing for many years. Three years ago he told me that seeds germinating from the base portion of the seed-coat (where the seed was held on to the stem) are invariably female. I'll have to admit I have never seen a plant of his develop male flowers.

—Tom
Portsmouth, R.I.

Thanks for the observation. Has anyone else tested this hypothesis? Let us know about it.

Dear Ed

I have been growing for three years now and every time my plants start to bud the leaves and branches start to turn a reddish purple color. What causes this and does it affect the potency of the plant?

—Mighty I.

Sonoma County, California

There are three possible reasons why the stem of the plant is turning purple

1. The plant is genetically keyed to produce a red or purplish color and does it as a part of its development.
2. The plant has experienced a cold spell and suffered from a temporary shortage of phosphorous (P) within the cells as well as in the soil and water-nutrient mix. Some plants turn either red or purple depending on the temperature: red in warm conditions, and purple in cold.
3. The plant is suffering from a P deficiency. This could occur either because the P in the medium is unavailable (possibly due to cold) or there is a shortage of P in the medium.

Dear Ed

This year it looks like I'm going to have a fair crop—barring the usual! I've been told marijuana can be placed in the deep freeze without harming it. What is the best way to store herb—should it be left moist or dried? How should it be wrapped for the freezer—plastic bags, plastic wrap, or what?

—Name Withheld

Reform, Alabama

I have never tried freezing undried grass. When fresh grass is cured, basically let dry slowly, the cells in the plant remain alive for a while. Since the leaves are in the dark, the metabolic processes consist of using stored starches by first changing them back into simple sugars and then oxidizing them. In addition, some pigments, including chlorophyll are also degraded. These processes may continue for quite a while after the plant or buds are picked, until the leaves become so limp they would be beyond the point of being revived on a plant suffering from lack of water.

When grass is frozen, the cells die, so the metabolic processes freshly cured grass undergoes are absent. I do not know how this would affect the grass regarding its smoking characteristics. It would definitely make the material more susceptible to molds and other microscopic airborne organisms so that it would probably be best if it were dried fairly quickly.

To store grass in a freezer, first cure it and dry it and then place in an airtight sealed bag or zip-lock bag. Place this in a rigid plastic or glass freezer container.

Dear Ed

My friend and I recently made a pipe from a bottle in which you light the bud in the bottle with a magnifying glass using the sun. After the bud has burned, the bottle is filled with still smoke. The smoke always seems harsher after sitting in the bottle than it would be drawn through a regular pipe. I was wondering if there was a chemical change in the smoke to make it harsher.

—Jag

Southern California

Ten years ago there was a pipe on the market called "The Tilt." It consisted of a plate heated by an adjustable electric heating coil. This was enclosed by a removable glass bowl. The idea was to heat the smokeables just enough to vaporize the oils but not enough to cause the vegetative material to burn. A flexible plastic tube with mouthpiece allowed the smoker to draw from the bowl once it was filled with vapor. The vapor was almost tasteless and almost clear, not very visible. In other words, you could not taste it or see it, but you definitely felt it when it hit your lungs. Coughing for the uninitiated ensued followed by a rush for all. I presume that smoking the vapor was a lot easier on the lungs than smoking all the residues of burned, dried plants.

I do not know why the smoke in the bottle is so harsh. One would think that the burn in the bottle was not as extensive as an uncontrolled burn in a pipe or joint for two reasons:

1. There is a limited amount of oxygen (O) available in the bottle. O is required for the smokeables to burn. Thereafter, there may be vaporization, but not oxidation.
2. The temperatures in the bottle probably do not reach the range to develop a self-supporting burn.

Perhaps by harsh you mean that the vaporized material is very concentrated, and because it is not very visible it is much stronger than one would normally expect it to be.

Perhaps another column correspondent can provide us more information.

● I welcome comments, tips and questions regarding marijuana and marijuana cultivation. Send all letters to Ask Ed, HIGH TIMES, 211 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017. Also send entries for the Bud, Plant and Garden of the Month Contests. All correspondents whose letters or photos are used will receive a free copy of my book, *Marijuana Growers Handbook, Indoor/Greenhouse Edition*.

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SWM, from east coast, currently incarcerated in California, looking for someone to correspond with. Been down two, one to go. 32, 5'11", 180 lbs., easy going. Looking for friendship or who knows, possible relationship. Will answer all letters. If possible, send picture to Bob Martel, C70255-304-41, CMWC III, PO Box 8103, San Luis Obispo, CA 93203-0005

My name is Tommy Rice. I am 31 years old. I have red hair, brown eyes, a little over 6' tall, and I would like to hear from you, and I will answer all letters. I am really lonely. I am in a California prison doing some time for being stupid. Please write and be sincere. I will be waiting for your reply, thank you Tommy Rice, D01695, PO Box 8101, Rm 3149X, San Luis Obispo, CA 93409.

Lonely, young, white male in good shape and knowledgeable, seeking correspondence from all. Richard Kuzda, 84 A 6964 Orleans Corr. Facility, PO Box 436, Albion, NY 14411

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I'm black, 6'1", 210 lbs., 38 years of age. I'm also Aries. I'm a very realistic and sensitive person. I'm into football, movies, music and meeting people. Will answer all that write to me. Age and race no problem. Joseph Melvin Bell, CMC-C49560-1106, PO Box 8101, San Luis Obispo, CA 93409.

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STANDING UP TO A CONSERVATIVE SUPREME COURT.

ADAPTATION OF SPEECH BY JEFFREY S. WEINER, ESQ., AT NORML SEMINAR

This article is based on a speech given to an audience of criminal defense lawyers from throughout the United States at a recent NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws) seminar in Key West by prominent Miami attorney Jeffrey S. Weiner of the Law Firm of Weiner, Robbins, Tunkey & Ross, P.A. Mr. Weiner is a past president of the Florida Criminal Defense Attorneys Association, and has been a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers for eight years. Mr. Weiner is a member of the faculty of the National Criminal Defense College and the National College of Trial Advocacy, past chairman of the Criminal Law Section of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, and a Fellow of the American Board of Criminal Lawyers. Mr. Weiner's ten-attorney Miami law firm handles criminal cases in state and federal courts throughout the United States and international extradition matters.

Mr. Weiner's speech was a rousing call to state judges and attorneys to stand up and be counted in the battle between the states' rightful independence to make and follow

their own constitutional law, and the United States Supreme Court's increasing imposition of its conservative interpretation of the federal constitution on state court decisions. *High Times* editors heard the speech and thought the topic should be of equal importance to individual citizens as well as legal professionals. *High Times* prepared this article based on Mr. Weiner's speech, modified to acquaint our readers with some of the issues.

We all know that our country began as individual states which subsequently formed a central federal government through a unifying constitution. The states, through the federal constitution, gave the federal government limited powers, providing in the Tenth Amendment that any powers not specifically enumerated to the federal government are reserved to the states. An often forgotten fact of significant importance is that the states which adopted their constitutions after the United States Constitution was written, relied upon preexisting state constitutions rather than the federal amendments to draft their bills of rights. *First Things First: Rediscovering the State Bill of Rights*, 9 U Balt L Rev 379 (1980). There is then a significant historical basis for a separate analysis of state constitutional guarantees. Thus the question emerges: how far can the United States Supreme Court go in imposing its opinions on the states when the state interest is in providing greater liberty to its citizens than the Supreme Court may deem necessary or proper?

This distinction between federal and state interpretations of constitutionally protected rights can make the difference between dismissal or acquittal, and conviction in state criminal cases. State courts are the final interpreters of state law and as such may interpret the state constitution in any way that does not violate federal law. *State v. Opperman*, 247 N.W.2d 673 (S.D. 1976). Furthermore, the federal constitution, as interpreted by the United States Supreme Court, establishes only minimum guarantees of rights, and the granting of additional liberties by a state does not violate its provisions. *Oregon v. Haas*, 420 U.S. 714 (1975). Unfortunately, despite the significant source provided by the state constitutions, both attorneys and state trial judges all too often hesitate to use it. Attorneys, in their briefs and at oral argument, all too often rely on interpreting the federal constitution and the federal law to argue their case unnecessarily creating obstacles to securing justice for their clients.

Although some state judges are acting on their disenchantment with both the logic and results of United States Supreme Court decisions, it remains all too infrequent that judges are concerned with the rights of an accused. Judges can, and sometimes do point out that a valid state constitutional issue exists and should be addressed in supplemental briefs by the parties. See

Vermont v. Jewett, 500 A.2d 233 (Vt. S Ct. 1985). It is more likely, however, that competing concerns with political expediency and crowded dockets preclude such judicial initiative as taken by Justice Hayes in the *Jewett* decision. Thus, the obligation rests primarily upon the lawyer to present a fully researched and developed state constitutional argument.

The implications of all this are of extraordinary importance to us all, particularly now with the Supreme Court composed of too many Justices who are case by case bringing George Orwell's worst scenario of Big Brother closer to reality. Consider: (1) "The U.S. Supreme Court will presume jurisdiction to review any state court decision where the adequacy and independence of any possible state law grounds are not clear from the face of the opinion." *Michigan v. Long*, 463 U.S. 1032 (1983). (2) ". . . The Fourth Amendment permits a duly authorized law enforcement officer to make a warrantless arrest in a public place even though he has had adequate opportunity to procure a warrant after developing probable cause for arrest." *United States v. Watson*, 423 U.S. 411 (1976). (3) Despite the protective rationale underlying the Fourth Amendment requirements that no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, and that the warrant be issued only by a detached and neutral magistrate in *Illinois v. Gates*, 462 U.S. 213 (1983), the Court held that probable cause could be established by a "totality of the circumstances" test. This is a far more relaxed standard than had previously been applied. The *Gates* opinion went on to describe the duty of a court reviewing the validity of a warrant as "simply to ensure that the magistrate had a 'substantial basis for' concluding' that probable cause existed." (4) In *United States v. Leon*, 104 S.Ct. 3405 (1984), the Court did a cost-benefit analysis of the Fourth Amendment exclusionary rule and held that where an officer relies in "good faith" on a warrant which is later found to be invalid for lack of probable cause, the evidence seized under the warrant will not be excluded. *Id.* at 3420. Although the *Leon* good faith exception has not yet been extended to warrantless searches, the prospect looms large on the horizon. This would mean, literally, that a police officer's "good faith" determination of probable cause to search a home without a warrant could produce evidence which, despite a later finding that no actual probable cause existed, could not be excluded at trial. "Good faith" places a premium on the officer's or agent's ignorance of the facts.

As is apparent from both this small sampling of some recent Supreme Court decisions as well as the trend from which these decisions are likely to continue being issued, state courts wishing to promote the security of basic constitutionally protected rights may be far wiser to do so by relying on their state constitution. Since 1970, there have been

continued on page 86

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4. Sonic Youth, EVOL (SST). Another great dose of hippie experimentalism America in a state of violent decay, as told by the Doors through Glenn Branca Or something like that.

5. George Clinton, R & B Skeletons (Capitol). So what is it you want to know? Don't expect me to tell you to buy this over the discounted reissue of Sly and the Family Stone's *There's a Riot Goin' On*. But you might consider stealing it, as long as you're in the record store anyway.

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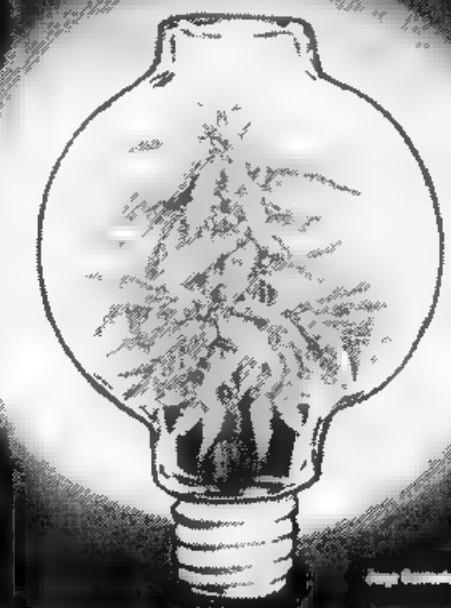
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C A S E

continued from page 80

over three hundred state court decisions providing greater constitutional rights and protection under state constitutions than the concomitant federal constitutional provisions. *Counts, Reliance on State Constitutions. Some Random Thoughts on Developments In State Constitutional Law* (B McGraw ed 1985)

Too many attorneys hear the names of the following United States Supreme Court decisions and believe that federal precedent controls the outcome of their case. What follows is a representative list of some United States Supreme Court decisions which have been rejected by state courts, one after another, using state constitutional provisions.

Illinois v. Gates, 462 U.S. 213 (1983) (previous *Aguilar-Spinel* test diluted to "totality of the circumstances"), rejected by *State v. Jackson*, 688 P.2d 136 (Wash. Ct. 1984).

United States v. Robinson, 414 U.S. 218 (1973) (regarding search incident to arrest), rejected by *State v. Chrisman*, 676 P.2d 419 (Wash. 1984), *People v. Maher* 550 P.2d 1044 (Cal. 1976), *State v. Lowry*, 667 P.2d 986 (Or. 1983).

United States v. Ross, 456 U.S. 798 (1982) (allows warrantless search of automobile upon probable cause), rejected by *State v. Ringer*, 674 P.2d 1240 (Wash. 1983).

Chambers v. Maroney 399 U.S. 42 (1970) (allowing warrantless investigatory search of automobile seized and removed to police station), rejected by *State v. Benoit*, 417 A.2d 895 (R.I. 1980).

South Dakota v. Opperman, 428 U.S. 364 (1976) (if a car is impounded because it was towed for illegal parking, it may be subjected to a warrantless "inventory search"), rejected by *State v. Daniel*, 589 P.2d 408 (Alaska 1979), *Wagner v. Commonwealth*, 581 S.W.2d 352 (Ky. 1979).

Texas v. Brown, 460 U.S. 730 (1983) decided the legitimacy of where the officer was with regard to a plain view analysis), rejected by *State v. Ball*, 471 A.2d 347 (N.H. 1983).

Schneckloth v. Bustamonte, 412 U.S. 218 (1973) (the Court held that the consenter's ignorance of his right to refuse consent was not in and of itself dispositive in ascertaining the validity of consent), rejected by *State v. Johnson*, 346 A.2d 66 (N.J. 1975).

United States v. White, 401 U.S. 745 (1971) (held that there was no expectation of privacy violation when an informer was wired to transmit incriminating information to narcotics agents), rejected by *Morningstar v. State*, 405 So.2d 778 (Fla. 1981), *State v. Samiento*, 397 So.2d 643 (Fla. 1981) (prior judicial approval required by state constitution privacy clause), *People v. Beavers*, 227 N.W.2d 511 (Mich. 1975), cert. denied 423 U.S. 878 (1975).

Smith v. Maryland, 442 U.S. 735 (1979) held that there is no legitimate expectation of privacy in numbers dialed from home phones), rejected by *People v. Chapman*, 679 P.2d 62 (Cal. 1984), *People v. Sporleder*, 666 P.2d 135 (Colo. 1983), *State v. Hunt*, 450 A.2d 952 (Md. 1982).

United States v. Salvucci, 448 U.S. 83 (1980) (barred automatic standing), rejected by *State v. Chinsman*, 676 P.2d 419 (Wash. 1984), *State v. Settle*, 447 A.2d 1284 (N.H. 1982), *Commonwealth v. Sell*, 470 A.2d 457 (Pa. 1983).

(Continued in October)



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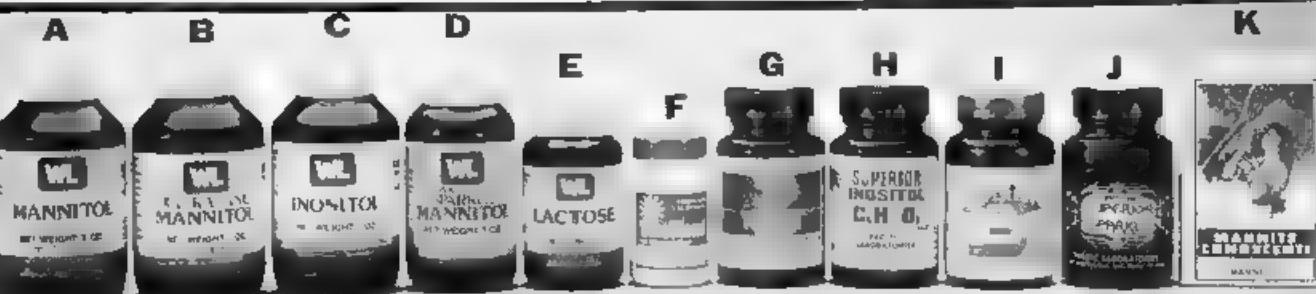
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ALTERNATIVE VIDEO CHARTS

by Jim Poling

• **Salt of the Earth** Based on a true story of a year-long zinc-mine strike in New Mexico, *Salt of the Earth* prides itself on authenticity (many members of the cast were non-professional actors who participated in the actual strike) and, despite its pioneering demands for social change, simplicity. Filmed in the '50s, it anticipates the fight for job quality, sexual equality, human rights, the women's movement and pablum like Norma Rae, which would make it remarkable enough, but the horror story of its production makes it the most important film in history. Following a tip from a schoolteacher, actor Walter Pidgeon alerted the FBI, the CIA, the State Department and the House Un-American Activities Committee to the fact that "Hollywood Reds" were shooting a "feature length, anti-American racial issue propaganda movie." Saving his ass by kissing Joseph McCarthy's, Pidgeon didn't mind that his misinformed paranoia launched one of the most shameful smears of the '50s Red scare. *Salt of the Earth* may have lost some of its dramatic punch after thirty years but its rewards are in the perseverance of its blacklisted cast and crew (director Herbert Biberman was one of the original Hollywood Ten) and their inexhaustible determination to finish their film amid death threats, arson and riots. After it was completed the few theaters who chose to show the film (only 13 in the U.S.) were threatened with bomb scares, newspapers refused to carry its ads and the IATSE projectionists union picketed Star. Will Geer found scant work until years later, and Mexican actress Rosaura Revueltas was arrested by immigration authorities through a fault of their own: they neglected to stamp her passport. She was sent back to her native country where she too was blacklisted for her involvement with this most humane film. She never worked as an actress again.

• **The Films of Val Lewton** Val Lewton produced some of the most thoughtful films ever made and after a rather short career in '40s Hollywood, the naive Lewton was pushed around and finally dumped by the very men whose careers he helped establish (notably Mark Robson, who directed *The Seventh Victim* for Lewton, later became Lewton's superior, and who had him fired for his "old-fashioned ideas"). Comfortable within the confines of minimal budgets, Lewton never compromised himself by matching content with the exploitable titles he was saddled with by the studio. *I Walked With a Zombie*, *Cat People*, *Curse of the Cat*



Salt of the Earth Strikers



People, *The Body Snatcher*, *Bedlam*, *The Leopard Man*, *Isle of the Dead* and *The Seventh Victim* are all currently available on video and they're probably the only horror films that benefit from the smallest possible audience. Large audiences overwhelm the subtlety of the shockers, and the phoney superiority of movie brats spawned on garbage stupidly miss the point and giggle at the occasional antiquated dialogue. Rent them, turn off the lights and watch.

SID AND NANCY

Sitting under dirty sheets and half-eaten Chinese food, Nancy Spungen asks Sid Vicious if he'd like to fuck. Nearly unconscious, he touches her face and asks, with a mouth full of chop suey, for a kiss. Instead, it's one of the most miserably sweet moments in any movie and it's to director Alex Cox's credit that he doesn't use it for cheap sympathy. **SID AND NANCY** never treats its subjects as martyrs or victims and never even expects us to identify with these two hapless losers.

Opening with a glassy-eyed Sid being questioned about a corpse zipped up in a body bag, the movie breezes over the brief career of The Sex Pistols (but does include several numbers including "My Way") and concentrates on Sid's modern romance with Nancy Spungen. While most of what goes on between them has to be speculative, the movie has the feel of some demented documentary. We never doubt what we see or hear. Only once, when Nancy takes Sid home to meet the family do we smell a set-up calculated for easy laughs. We know that the family will be speechless. We know that Sid and Nancy will make fools of themselves in an obvious clash of cultures. But sitting down for a suburban Sunday dinner with Nancy braying about their "glamorous" lifestyle while Sid inhales his food and impresses no one, they get the idea that they're two unwelcome aliens who have landed on the wrong planet. When her mother brushes them off with feeble excuses and politely offers to drive them to the bus station as soon as possible, Alex Cox turns the whole affair into something surprisingly and appropriately pathetic.

Gary Oldman is so right as Sid Vicious. It's creepy. Whether scaring teenage fans on the street, kicking up his heels in a junk yard or choking on stage in a near-empty Max's Kansas City, he makes Sid hopelessly appealing. On the other hand, Chloe Webb (her film debut) makes Nancy a professional whiner: a brash and abrasive star-fucker who, if we are to believe Ma Spungen's confessional memoir, **AND I DON'T WANT TO LIVE THIS LIFE**, was screwed up long before she left home, an adolescent doped-up to calm her rebellious behavior (and attempts at suicide). On screen, without the benefit of a background, she comes across as a simple-minded nagging bitch with raccoon eyes who falls in garbage cans a lot. When she isn't out of it herself she does make some half-hearted attempts to clean Sid up, but is so doggedly shrewish about it it's a wonder someone didn't kill her sooner. It's mostly a one-note nerve-wracking performance but on occasion she does some alarmingly fun-

continued on page 92

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THE BLOODETE

is saturated with blatantly sexual images that have been combined with depictions of sacred national events. Most book stores refused to carry it. So Cockrill/Judge Hughes plastered billboard size images from the book on downtown buildings.

This year's exhibition—"Family Life: The Postwar Years"—broke new ground in its unfettered depiction and analysis of life in the American home.

While the artists and their work received much popular attention, the critics were neither impressed nor amused. Cockrill/Judge Hughes' artwork has been maligned as "aggressively stupid . lousy painting that conflates adolescent nihilism with political consciousness." (*Village Voice*) More frequently the critics have attacked the artists personally as "twisted creeps, big assholes," (*The Paper*) with "shock effect their only talent" (*The New York Times*). All seem in agreement that the art team has "an uncontested claim to be the most vulgar artists in New York today" (*East Village Eye*). What do the artists have to say?

HIGH TIMES: Has any critic given you a positive review?

Cockrill: No. The gallery system and the critical system are trying as hard as they can to keep art from moving forward at too swift a pace. Only fast enough to keep it entertaining but never so fast that it becomes troubling. When our ad in *Artforum* (with a reproduction from *Family Life*) came out people cancelled their subscriptions. If you allowed free expression in the art world it would create anarchy and that would threaten the gallery and museum systems.

HIGH TIMES: How does the middle class—which is the subject of your work and from which you came—see your paintings?

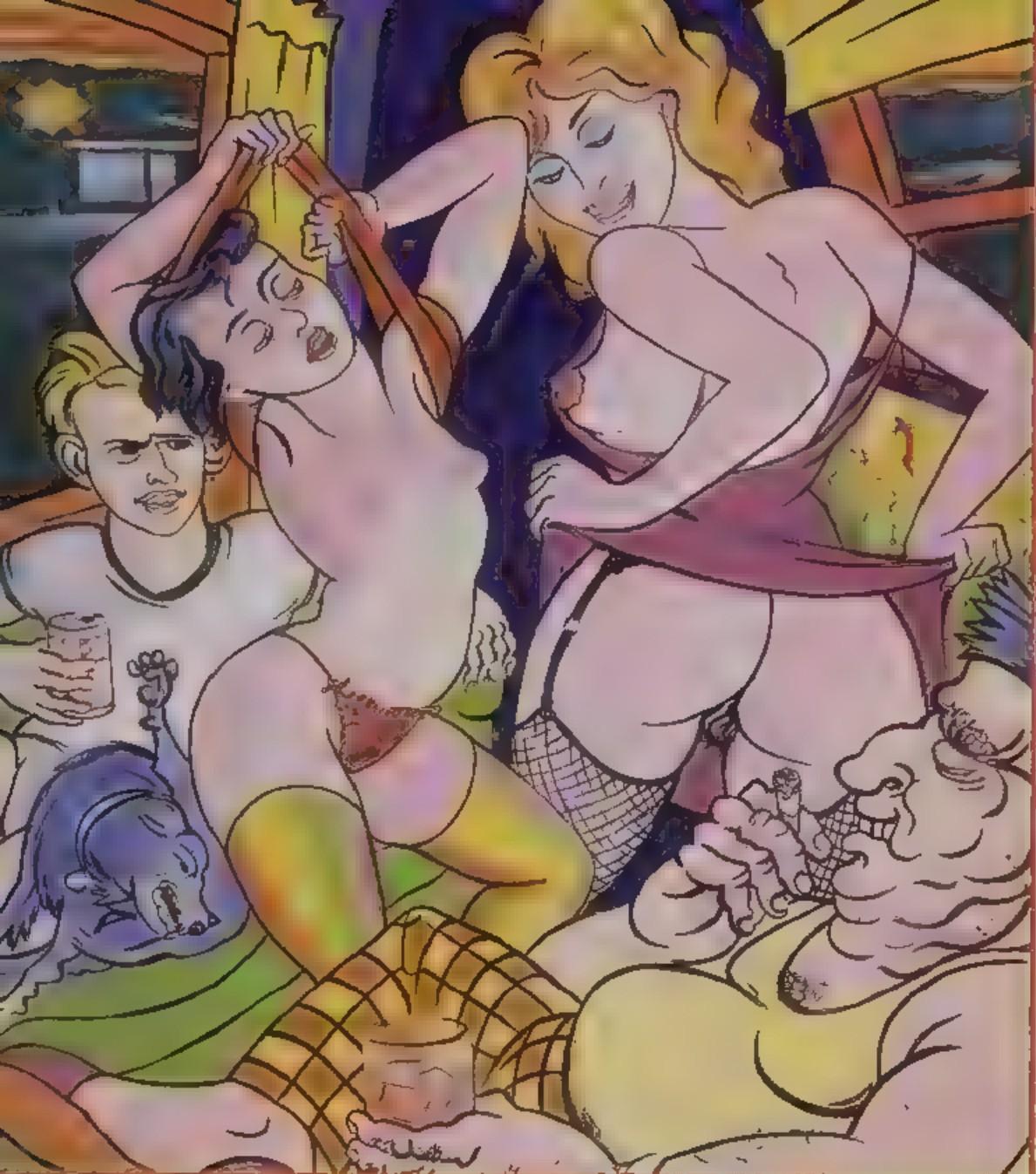
Cockrill: They're the ones who respond the most enthusiastically. The only ones who resent it are the New York intellectuals. Too frequently artists are middle class people who pretend they don't have middle class ideas.

Hughes: The intelligentsia is offended by the middle class and depictions of middle class life.

Cockrill: I think that if these paintings were really full of shit no one would be affected by them. The fact that they have an element of truth in them is why people get affected.

HIGH TIMES: Your graphic depictions of sex certainly push and perhaps shatter accepted standards of propriety. In the "Family Life" exhibition incest—depicted or implied—appears in almost every canvas.

Hughes: Well, everyone has



COCKRILL / HUGHES BACK OF THE U.S.A.

BY MARK MOSKIN

MIKE COCKRILL and JUDGE HUGHES are taxi-driving New York artists with a mission. To question accepted social perceptions and standards.

Cockrill/Judge Hughes' early performances juxtaposed the deaths of John Kennedy and John Lennon. As Cockrill fired a gun at portraits of Kennedy and Lennon the artists led the audience in a sing along rendition of "Let's Shoot Johnny in the Head" to the tune of "The Syncopated Clock."

From this performance came the notorious "comic book" *The White Papers*, which begins with the assassination of JFK, churns through the Manson murders and Viet Nam, and reaches a finale with the shooting of the former Beatle. Because *The White Papers*

THE WEEMS

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naughty ideas. In everyone's mind—looking at these pictures—they remember their own thoughts. In this sense the work is nostalgic. But the Incest was not actualized. The pictures are not a real image but an ideal image. The works are painted expressions. Art is a representation of man's subliminal desires.

Cockrill: Incest is a universal obsession. The American family exists because of incest. Without incest you don't have nationalism. Nationalism, political partyism, are incestual. You keep it in the home. If you let outsiders inside you change the genetic strain. So you maintain your power by incestual activity.

HIGH TIMES: So the works are metaphors.

Cockrill: Yes. It's not really about fucking your sister. It's about the inability to mix with other groups and other ideas.

HIGH TIMES: Do you have sympathy for the people depicted in your paintings?

Cockrill: Yes.

Hughes: They are sheep being led to the slaughter. And they don't even know it. They are happy because they're unaware they've fallen from the garden of paradise.

Cockrill: I think the important thing to note is that the people are portrayed sympathetically, that the paintings are primarily happy, that the paintings are radical and funny.

HIGH TIMES: Your works certainly are radical in that they expose the roots of society. Let me read a quotation from Friedrich Engels.

"The artist will have acquitted himself honorably when, by means of an accurate portrait of actual social relations, he will have destroyed the conventional view of the nature of these relations, shattered the optimism of the bourgeois world, and forced the viewer to question the permanency of the prevailing order."

Cockrill: That's exactly what we do—that's what our major function is.

Hughes: The capitalist system will change as a result of the Artists' Union, with which I am involved. The artists will be at the vanguard of the revolution. If art can't serve a vanguard position it should be destroyed. Its head should be severed and left to wither like the useless capitalist tool that it is.

Cockrill: Perhaps the most radical thing we do is to spend years making paintings that seem to have little chance of being sold.

HIGH TIMES: I agree that your work questions the social foundations. But is it funny? Viewers most often appear taken aback, shocked into silence rather than laughter. Perhaps this occurs because the



paintings have the appearance of being pornographic. According to an attorney who is an expert in this field, your work meets all the requirements for legal classification as pornography.

Cockrill: It does. It meets every level without really being pornographic. Hughes, it meets every level. But, when you look at each painting, there is something wrong: the men are dirty—they're not desirable.

Cockrill: Or the woman is bored. Somehow the paintings operate as a critique of pornography. It's an analysis of pornography. If you just painted an attractive woman on a couch—that was simply designed to

arouse the viewer—I don't think it would last. You'd look at it once and then throw it away. But you come back to our work because there's a story going on.

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RUSHES

continued from page 88

ny things with Nancy's ruined voice and ruinous behavior. Especially when she concocts a scam to get drug money by phoning her mother and insisting that she and Sid were married. "We don't want sheets! We want money!" It's a shame it takes so long to warm up to Chloe Webb's Nancy—minutes before she's about to get it in the belly with Sid's butcher knife. Their lives seem clearer and uncluttered and when they crawl into bed to cuddle, the murder seems almost sensible and romantic. Nancy stumbles to the bathroom, gropes for the mirror and sees herself smeared with her own blood. She looks a little relieved and she drops

Sid Vicious and Nancy Spungo were made for each other and their lives are ripe for exploiting, but Alex Cox, whose previous film was **REPO MAN** avoids cheap tricks this time that could have turned **SID AND NANCY** into another marketable pop culture anti-hero movie. Most of it is too fine to be so casually successful. —J.P.

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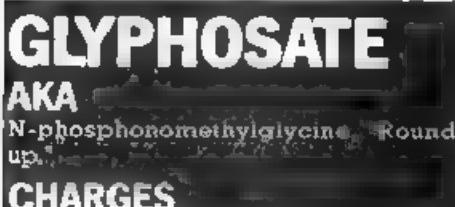
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government to insure that pot gets to market uncontaminated by 2,4-D or any other poison. Failing that, concerned citizens would do well to at least contribute to any of the public-interest groups who are suing the government to keep them from spraying these hideous chemicals coast to coast (and in Hawaii, too).



NET 25 GAL



Possibly the least toxic plantkiller, in terms of recorded human poisoning incidents, on the market today. However, when set on fire, glyphosate turns into cyanide.

These charges are also true.

NATURE AND USE

Glyphosate is ideal for spot application to all sorts of unwanted vegetation, from Dogbane hemp (*Apocynum cannabinum*) to Loblolly pines (*Pinus taeda*), according to the manufacturers, at least. The manufacturers also stipulate, for every sort of plant on which glyphosate is used, that the stuff should only be sprayed "at or near the flowering cycle, at full maturity." Sprayed any earlier in the plant's growth cycle, glyphosate will simply fail to kill the plant. Therefore, if glyphosate-spraying cops follow the label directions properly (and the label directions have the full force of federal law), then they'll only spray the stuff in late summer and autumn, on fully-mature, budding, harvestable marijuana plants. Since it takes glyphosate nearly a full week to kill plants, use of this herbicide on pot will give the growers the longest interval of time after spraying to harvest their poisoned plants and carry them to market.

Glyphosate is merchandised under the brand name "Roundup" by the Mon-

santo Company of St. Louis. It's only been on the open market for seven years, and during that time, only one person is on record as having sued for total disability on the basis of being exposed to the Roundup formulation of glyphosate. The Monsanto people were wholly unaware that their herbicide had been proposed by the DEA for use on marijuana before HIGH TIMES advised them of it in 1984; to their credit, they immediately divulged to us that when the stuff's set on fire, it changes into cyanide.

HAZARDS AND LIABILITIES

As it's customarily used, glyphosate appears to present minimal hazards to the health of human beings. Unlike paraquat or 2,4-D, glyphosate-based Roundup can be sold to ordinary neighborhood gardeners and farmers, with no special government paperwork. Its one main drawback is the length of time it takes to kill plants: up to a week in most cases, and even longer than a week in some cases. People who use glyphosate to kill plants in preference to 2,4-D or paraquat, simply sacrifice efficiency in the interests of human safety.

Not so the DEA, however, when it connives to have glyphosate sprayed on pot plants. As the Monsanto Company stipulates, whenever glyphosate is burned, a substantial proportion of it is turned into "acetonitrile," also known as methyl cyanide: the very same almond-scented attar the Nazi Schutzstaffel, in the name of morality and hygiene and strict law enforcement, employed at Auschwitz, Treblinka, Mauthausen, and so on.

In their several public first draft EIS documents, the DEA betrayed no awareness that glyphosate turns into cyanide when it's burned. After HIGH TIMES and several other parties had advised the DEA of this inconvenience, though, subsequent DEA documents acknowledged it: "chest pains, cough, abdominal cramps, dyspnea, nausea, headache, chills, cysphasis, lassitude, and fatigue" have all been seen in industrial workers who've inhaled acetonitrile, the DEA now concedes. Also "pale to ashen-grey skin, shallow pulse, hypotension, transient paralysis and tachycardia." Yummy stuff, this glyphosate, when it's burned and inhaled.

When they address this inconvenient aspect of glyphosate, the DEA makes three extremely intelligent points in its EIS documents. 1): Although all these horrible things do happen to people who inhale glyphosate vapors, nobody knows for sure if it's really the acetonitrile cyanide that's responsible for the symptoms, and not some other sort of cyanide in glyphosate. 2): Your

pot would probably have to be really drenched with glyphosate before it could make you quite this spectacularly sick (for all the DEA knows, anyhow). 3). They're only legally responsible for spraying the glyphosate on the marijuana, and if some druggie independently decides to torch that marijuana up and turn the glyphosate into cyanide, then it's that druggie's fault if he or she gets a little sick for a little while. When the DEA is ultimately hauled into court over glyphosate-poisoned pot, the expert testimony is going to be something really special.

FIRST AID

No, there's no way you'll be able to tell glyphosate-tainted marijuana from hericide-free pot; glyphosate's plant killing activity occurs in the roots of the plants, not on their leaves and buds, like paraquat and 2,4-D. And of course there is no government lab facility geared up to survey nationwide samples of evidence weed for glyphosate contamination. The drug policeman is your friend, not your mommy.

In estimating the potential damage of glyphosate pot, though, it helps to remember that the Government of Colombia has been spraying glyphosate, out of helicopters, onto hundreds of thousands of acres of standing marijuana, three times a year every year since the summer of 1983. (We first covered this in 1983, after it was reported in the Latin American edition of the *Miami Herald*, and was confirmed to us by the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics Matters; if this is the first you've heard of it, that's because you haven't been following HIGH TIMES for the last few years.) Every few months over that period, we've called around to Poison Control Centers in various cities, asking if anyone's recently complained of acute cyanide-poisoning symptoms—chest pains, cough, cramps, shortness of breath and so on—after smoking pot. Since there have been no reports of this stuff, you have to rationally conclude that glyphosate-tainted pot really mustn't yield enough cyanide to make people sick after smoking it.

So basically, when it comes to glyphosate, HIGH TIMES completely supports the DEA. Compared to paraquat and 2,4-D, glyphosate is obviously about as toxic as pistachio ice cream. Let them spray it all over the place, therefore, as long as they don't spray Paraquat Plus or Esteron. Because glyphosate takes so long to kill plants, there's no way any tolerably watchful and diligent marijuana planter ought to lose a single sinsemilla bush because of it. And they won't lose any tax money on all that wasted government glyphosate, either because pot planters don't pay taxes.

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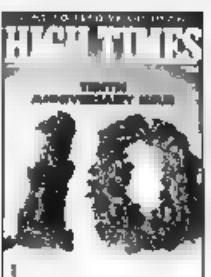
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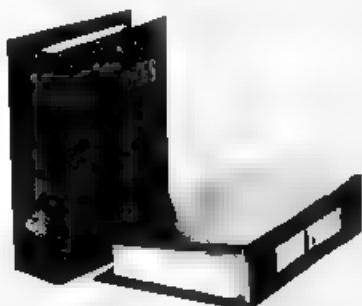
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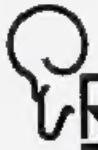
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